

# THE AMERICAN FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

[ESTABLISHED 1819.]

"O FORTUNATOS NIMIUM SUA SI BONA NORINT  
"AGRICOLAS." . . . . Virg.

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## NOVEMBER.

"The piping winds sing nature's dirge,  
As through the forest bleak they roar—

Whose leafy screen, like locks of eld,  
Each day shows scantier than before.

Thou fadest as a flower, O man!  
Of food for musing here is store.

O man! thou fallest as a leaf:  
Face thoughtfully earth's leaf strewn floor."

## Gossip from the Farm.

GOOD FARMER: May I ask the favour of your printer to have the spelling of the lines above done *just* as I have done it. "Speak the speech, I pray you, as I pronounced it to you." I am earnest as Hamlet in this matter, being responsible to the poet from whom I borrow, who is still a living man, and especially alive to the right use and treatment of English words. Last month I had the following:

"And not a blast can blow but strews  
With leaf of gold the earth's *dank* floor."

I had a suspicion that some of the printer's officials might demur to the word "*dank*," and was careful to see that in the "proof" sent me it was correctly printed. After it left my hands some boy or "devil" took it into his wise head to change "*dank*" to "*dark*"—the earth's *dark* floor. He did a thing that he ought not to have done.

Turning from words to things, what of potatoes? have they rotted? where most? in what kinds of ground as to water holding, whether of upper or under soil? what sorts have rotted, and what are sound, under the same circum-

stances? Ours have behaved well so far. Harrison, Early Goodrich, Peach blows, all tolerably sound, under conditions where we could not have blamed them for the contrary—where it was wet enough early in the season to rot a portion of the seed planted. Have these kinds escaped elsewhere a wide-spread ruin? I notice in some exchange that a potato called "*Monitor*," in New Jersey, has rotted badly; while one of the same name, obtained from the originator of the "*Monitor*," in Massachusetts, has continued quite sound. There is a sharp practice of giving good names, or new names, to old sorts, which should be exposed. The famous "*Carter*" potato I believe to be our old and excellent "*Foxite*." At one time, nothing would sell in the Baltimore or Washington markets in competition with the Mercer. When the "*Connecticut Carters*" began to be quoted in the New York market above Mercers, Carters began to sell in Baltimore. About this time I offered a lot for sale to several dealers in Baltimore as "*Foxites*," and failed to sell at the price of Mercers until I offered them without name to a dealer, who took them promptly at my price, and as promptly pronounced them Carters.

A sharp frost on the night of September 29th. We remember that in years some time past—say when we were young—this was thought a somewhat dangerous date for tobacco planters. A late and large crop was still in the field on the 29th of September, when a killing frost swept our tobacco region fore and aft. The "*weed*" was bringing a good price, and the loss was heavy. It is to be remarked too, that as our frost now has come first on Sunday night, this seems to have been the day the clerk of the weather has commonly chosen to get up a

"scare," The Anne Arundel county people used to say that the Evil One had a hand in it, that he might tempt the Prince Georgians to the wickedness of working on Sunday to save their favourite crop—a little jealous it may be that the latter out-cropped them. The Anne Arundel crops, the latter retorted, were small enough to be snugged away in good time.

Are our farmers, not having the fear of the fly before their eyes, and impressed with the importance of early seeding on all other considerations, changing materially the time of sowing? On some parts of the Eastern Shore much wheat has been sown, as we learn, even early in September. The best red wheats are being sown very commonly too. These, it has been thought, admit of earlier seeding, with more security than the white against fly. The old Mediterranean was called "fly proof" from its vigorous habit of early growth. Let us note here, on the authority of Elias Davis, Esq., State Senator for Washington county, that the white Mediterranean wheat which has been sown for some years in that county, is now a good red wheat and nothing more. We should be glad to know how this is elsewhere. Mr. Davis makes the suggestion which we mean to submit to the Agricultural Department at Washington, that we need a new importation of Mediterranean wheat, which he would not have distributed gratuitously, but sold to farmers in such quantities as may suit them.

The corn fodder continued green quite up to the time when the frost took it, and where not secured before that time, has been greatly damaged. It should not have been left to such risk, as the corn could gain nothing, perhaps, by the delay. The grass has throughout the season maintained an unchanged green, but on this 10th of October, the woods are passing into the "sere and yellow leaf." Ripened fruits and harvests admonish us that the season has fulfilled its mission, and bid us prepare without delay for the time before us, for which if we be not ready, we may look surely for pains and penalties.

Yours truly, &c.

THE WILSON STRAWBERRY FOR THE WEST.—M. L. Dunlap, an eminent horticulturist, residing at Champaign, Ill., says: "Whatever may be thought of the Wilson at the east, here at the west it is not only the market-berry, but is rapidly becoming almost exclusively the one for family use. Our hot suns appear to elaborate its rich juice; and although it may require more sugar than the soft varieties, yet it suits the taste of our people."

## Work for the Month.

### TOBACCO.

The curing of the crop will by this time be at an advanced stage, and it should not be exposed to the changes of the weather. The doors and other openings should be closed at night and during the day, except in fine weather. Let it have every advantage of a drying atmosphere, with no exposure to dampness. The stripping should be begun early, but not till the leaf-stems are thoroughly cured.

### WHEAT FIELD.

On the finishing up of the wheat-sowing, let sufficient water-furrows be made to take off all water that would otherwise lie too long. It is excess of water, be it remembered, that causes winter-killing, not excess of cold.

### CORN CROP.

The corn crop should be now gathered and put away securely. If pulled from the stalks and put under cover and key in the shucks, it may await the leisure of winter to shuck and put away in the corn-crib, and with less risk perhaps of heating than if put early in the crib. The late grown corn is very liable to damage, unless left to dry on the standing stalks till late in the fall.

The fodder having been well saved and secured, let the larger stalks be fed early in the season to afford time for rotting the bulk of material it contains. It will thus, by the treading of the cattle, be put early in the condition of a good absorbent, and fit for any necessary use in the early part of the coming season. Keep a portion of blades for working and driving horses in spring and summer, and the rest for milch cows. The tops are very suitable for sheep and calves, and the shucks for oxen. Corn fodder of any sort is excellent for cows in milk during winter, provided it be in the best condition.

### POTATO CROP.

There should be now no loss of time in securing the potato crop. Let them be taken out of the ground in dry weather, and lie only long enough to dry off the surface moisture. Put them then in conical heaps of such size as may be deemed convenient—as many as fifty bushels, if thought desirable—on an elevated and dry spot of ground, perfectly drained, and cover with a coat of straw and earth. Let this stand till the approach of hard-freezing weather, when another good coat of straw should be laid over the pile, and a second coating of earth. If well covered, they are as perfectly preserved in this

way as in the cellar, and the potatoes keep fresher, and in better condition.

#### RUTA BAGAS AND OTHER ROOTS.

Put these away in the same way as potatoes. They are less liable to damage by frost, and need less covering and less attention. Small quantities needed for family use only, may, for convenience, go into the cellar. — Parsnips are better if left where they are growing till wanted for use.

#### FATTENING STOCK.

The feeding of beeves for the butcher should be carried on with system and regularity, avoiding especially excessive feeding, and being careful to see that they keep well to their appetite. If fed too high in the early stages of their feeding, before they have got thoroughly accustomed to the change from ordinary feeding, loss of appetite, loss of time, and waste of food will be the consequence. Be sure that they are kept at all times dry and comfortable, and with plenty of water at command.

All these remarks are alike applicable to sheep. We are too apt to suppose that their fleecy covering makes them insensible to the changes of weather. Let them be especially protected against long cold rains during their fattening season, keep them off the wet ground at night, and make them in all respects comfortable and quiet.

#### HOGS.

If they have been long enough penned to become accustomed to change of food, they should now be put upon full feed. Let them have all they can eat of the best food you can give them, and see that they are kept quiet and comfortable. Charcoal is very serviceable to fattening hogs. In the absence of this, rotten wood should be supplied. An occasional handful of salt and ashes to each hog is very beneficial.

Ground and cooked food, or either ground or cooked, is more economical than feeding the raw corn. But it is vastly more convenient to use the whole ears, and at so busy a season, few will adopt these modes of preparing food. The next best one is to throw the whole ears of corn into a tub of water to soak for twelve hours; having two tubs, one of which will be emptied at each feeding, and immediately filled again with fresh ears. Throw into the water a little salt and wood ashes. There should be a perfectly dry floor to feed upon, if the hogs are not in raised pens, where the waste may fall through to be gleaned by the store hogs.

#### STORE STOCK.

The principles which apply to fattening stock,

are equally applicable to growing and store cattle of all kinds, the chief difference being in the quality and quantity of food allowed, and the degree of confinement. Sheds open to the south, and protected on the three other sides, if made deep enough—twenty-five to thirty feet—keep the stock in better condition than close houses that cannot be thoroughly ventilated. Fresh air is very essential to the thrift and good condition of stock of every sort, and can do no harm, unless there is exposure to wet at the same time.

Working oxen, milch cows and calves, should have separate divisions for feeding. Horses are much better in boxes where they can be left unharmed.

Sheep should have free use of sheds for protection against bad weather, but should not be confined to them. Calves do very well if penned and fed with sheep.

Hogs should be kept away from other stock, and never allowed to sleep in damp litter, or manure heaps. A range in a wood lot, and a bed of leaves on a south hillside, under cover, is a very suitable arrangement for them. Sows should go to the boar the latter part of the month, and will bring their litters early in March. This will give the young stock advantage of the whole season of warm weather for growth.

Have water in the yards if possible. There is often great trouble and inconvenience, and sometimes suffering for the want of this necessary provision. It is more needed in winter, when the stock is kept on dry food, than in summer, and should have it so provided that it can be taken in small quantities, and not excessive drinks that will chill them through.

#### THE THEORY OF DRAINAGE IN A NUT-SHELL.—

The draining away of superabundant water, especially on stiff soils, has always been the chief difficulty in English agriculture. Hitherto the means employed for getting rid of it were imperfect. Now, however, the problem is completely solved. "Take this flower pot," said the president of a meeting in France lately: what is the meaning of this small hole at the bottom? To renew the water. And why to renew the water? Because it gives life or death; life, when it is only made to pass through the bed of earth, for it leaves with the soil its productive principles, and renders soluble the nutritive properties destined to nourish the plant: death, on the other hand, when it remains in the pot, for it soon becomes putrid, and rots the roots, and also prevents new water from penetrating." The theory of drainage is exactly described in this figure.—*Ex.*

## The Vegetable Garden.

Prepared for the American Farmer, by DANIEL BAKER,  
Maryland Agricultural College.

### NOVEMBER.

Much as there has been said and written upon the utility of trenching and subsoiling the ground in vegetable gardens as a means of bringing up a portion of the subsoil to mix with the upper portion of the soil, when it is said to be exhausted or "worn out" with constant cropping for a series of years, how many are still blind to its advantages. When the subsoil is clay, they are very fearful of mixing any portion of it with the upper soil, notwithstanding the latter may be like an ash heap, and as rich as the best kind of barnyard manure can make it. That by bringing up a large quantity at one time would materially injure it cannot be doubted, but it rarely so happens by a small quantity; and as very many vegetable gardens would be greatly benefited by the operation, we earnestly recommend to the readers of the "*Farmer*" to take advantage of the present favorable season for the purpose.

**ASPARAGUS.**—The stalks should be cleared off; cleaning the ground of all weeds, and giving a good coating of old barnyard manure, some two or three inches deep.

**BRUSSELS SPROUTS.**—Where this delicious vegetable is grown, and the head is cut out, the dead leaves should be removed, but none of the green ones, as they will protect the young side shoots from the effects of hard frost.

**CAULIFLOWERS.**—Plants now heading, if not wanted for use, should be taken up and hung in a cool cellar, where they will keep for weeks. Those under glass should have air daily, except during severe frost. If the plants suffer from an insufficiency of air, they will be but of little use.

**CABBAGE.**—Whenever a favorable opportunity occurs, draw a little earth to the fall planted plantations; it will invigorate them and prevent more being loosened by the wind. If slugs attack the plants, lay a quantity of cabbage leaves on the ground and examine them daily; some lime taken around at the same time, and the slugs shaken into it, thus thousands may be destroyed at this season of the year.

**CELERY.**—Take advantage of every favorable opportunity to bank up all that requires it; rather let it remain as it is than to do this when stalks are wet. The ridges should be made

as narrow at the top as can be conveniently done, and nicely finishing the sides with the back of the spade, so as to prevent, as far as possible, the soil about the plants becoming saturated with wet. Mixing plenty of unslaked lime with the soil about the plants, will be found of great use in preventing their rotting in winter, and it will also prevent them being eaten by slugs.

**ENDIVE.**—This excellent winter salad plant if taken up and planted in a frame, will give good heads from Christmas to early spring. During fine weather it should have plenty of air admitted to prevent it from rotting.

**LETTUCE.**—The cabbage varieties planted in frames for winter use, will not require much air, provided the soil is light and dry. When they require water, give it to each plant from a watering-pot without a rose, and be careful never to expose the plants to heavy rains.

**POTATOES.**—Whenever the weather is favorable, the ground intended for potato culture should be roughly forked or ploughed over, and exposed to the action of the weather as much as possible, and barnyard manure if applied at all, should be most sparingly used.

**RHUBARB.**—Some good manure should be laid over the crowns of the plants to protect them from the frost. A few roots may be taken up and placed in pots or boxes, and placed in any out of the way room or cellar, where the temperature is about 60°.

**SPINACH.**—In picking the leaves the soil should be trodden as little as possible, as the growth is much injured by having the soil much consolidated about it.

Clear up all decaying vegetable matter, and whenever the ground is in a favorable state, stir the surface among all growing crops of cabbage, lettuce, spinach, &c. All vacant ground, whenever in good condition, should be ploughed or spaded. It is a bad practice to leave all the ploughing until hard frost sets in, as by so doing a greater part of the benefit to the soil is lost, and the garden during the entire winter look very much neglected.

From the experience of an English farmer it has been demonstrated that sheltered sheep eat one-third less of linseed cake, and two pounds less of turnips per day. And yet, notwithstanding this, the increase of those housed, compared with those that were not, was as fourteen to nine. An equal if not greater advantage, is derived by sheltering cattle.—*Exchange*.

## The Fruit Garden.

Pruning should be proceeded with every fine day, even although it may delay some other work which may be done with more comfort in unfavorable weather. It is most important to have all the pruning done while the weather remains mild. Where orchard trees have been for some years left unpruned, great care must be exercised in trimming out the larger branches.

The middle of the trees should be kept open for the free admission of air, and to promote the formation of fruit buds upon the interior branches. It is a bad practice to leave any fruit tree unpruned, as it will in all cases pay the cultivator to go over his trees and prune once a year. If fruit trees are yet to be planted, it should be done with as little delay as possible. A barrow load of good rich soil should be put in each hole and mixed well with the soil; and the holes should be made sufficiently large for the roots when laid out straight. By inattention to this, suckers are sometimes so numerous, caused by cramping and bruising the roots. If planting is not completed by the early part of the month, there will be little gained by it until spring.

Strawberries in pots should be placed where they can be protected from drenching rains and severe frost. A frame would be the best situation for them, but the lights should not be put on save in hard rains and frosts. If hitherto delayed, strawberry-beds should be mulched with short, rich manure, which may remain until spring, when it should be slightly forked in. Remove all unnecessary runners, if they have been allowed to remain up to the present time.

Raspberry plantations should be cleared of the dead canes and superfluous wood; the suckers to be taken off, and the best preserved for planting.

Pears should not become over ripe before being used. Look over the whole whenever time can be spared, removing all that show any symptoms of decay, and take them for immediate use. Any choice varieties of pears that do not ripen properly in the fruit room, should be removed to a warm room for a few days, which will greatly improve them.

Keep all fruit as cool and dry as possible; give just sufficient air to carry off all damp, but nothing more, as hard, drying winds, blowing over the fruit, cause it to shrivel.

Continue to make preparations for planting fruit trees in the spring, by draining, ploughing, subsoiling and pulverizing the soil. Too little importance is paid to mulching newly planted trees—the operation is one not to be neglected.

It should be well considered that the soil has nothing in the way of temperature to gain in this way between this period and the month of March; but, on the contrary, a progressive loss must insure for the next three months, unless we resort to the practice of mulching, which we recommend to be done to all newly planted trees.

## The Flower Garden.

"In all places, and all seasons,  
Flowers expand their light and soul-like wings,  
Teaching us by most persuasive reasons,  
How akin they are to human things."

Continue to clear the flower-beds of their summer occupants as they become unsightly. Spade up the beds, and do whatever can be done to save time next spring. Those who propose to make additions to their collections should do so at once, as there is a much better chance of securing good plants now than there will be next spring after the florists stocks have been picked over. The present season is not favorable for planting the more tender kinds; but they had better be procured and protected in a frame or otherwise, from hard frosts until May.

In preparing ground for roses, it should be trenched two feet deep, with a heavy dressing of well rotted manure, well incorporated to the full depth of the soil. All alterations should be carried on as late as circumstances will permit. All tender shrubs should have some protection forthwith, especially tea and other tender roses. A little straw or branches of hemlock or other evergreens, bound around them and fastened to a stake, will preserve them from the effects of severe frosts. Take up and store dahlias, salvia patens, &c., if not already done. While the weather continues mild and open, the planting of deciduous trees and shrubs should be proceeded with, provided the state of the ground will permit of the operation being profitably conducted.

The chief work among house plants will be the frequent looking over and examining them, removing all decayed leaves, stirring the surface soil, washing the pots, &c.; and this can be done on stormy days. With a little forecast we always find plenty of work under shelter during wet and stormy weather.

WHITE ROSES.—The desire of a fair correspondent to know what are the best white roses, induces me to say a word on the point through the pages of the "*Farmer*." There is no doubt but there is a wide field in which the skill and energies of the hybridisers of this country should be



exerted, the result of which, if carefully and understandingly carried out, no one acquainted with the subject can doubt. In this beautiful class of roses, whether we take the "hybrid perpetual," teas, or Bourbons, we are yet very deficient. "Mrs. Rivers" we have sometimes *nearly white*, in which state it is most beautiful. New crimson, and roses of every shade, are sent out by the scores every year; but so far as we know, there have been nothing approaching a first class white for many years past. We admire the bright and gorgeous colors of many of the new roses, which have been imported during the last nine years. But we want something of a lighter character, more especially a *pure white*. Several have been sent out as new white "hybrid perpetuals." With us the character and style of growth are much more like "hybrid noisettes" than perpetuals, and the flowers are *not pure white*. The best light colored roses with which we are acquainted are as follows:

MADAME ALFRED DE ROUGEMONT.—Not a pure white, as described in some of the European catalogues, but white, shaded with pink, and in this class we think it an acquisition.

MADAME FREEMAN.—Light flesh, changing to white, very delicate.

MADAMOISELLE BONNAIRE.—Pale pink, and in bud, one of the most beautiful with which we are acquainted.

MADAME ZOUTMAN.—large flower and *nearly white*, an excellent grower, and good *summer bloomer*, and one of the best.

EMOTION.—A lovely *small* rose, but not pure white.


LOUISE MARGOTTEN.—A beautiful, light, flesh color, and not of sufficient substance of petal to withstand the scorching rays of our summer sun.

MADAME VIDOT.—Is somewhat uncertain; but as a flower *approaching white* is, we think, one of the most beautiful.

One of the finest light roses we have here is *Souvenir de la Malmaison*, which is magnificent; a good and profuse bloomer from early spring until the frost is sufficiently severe to destroy the buds.

The best rose we have here of a dark color is *Lord Macaulay*. Color, a brilliant, velvet crimson; large, very double, and beautiful shape.

D. B., MD. AG. COLLEGE.

 The Japanese plant cucumbers in drills three or four feet apart and bush them like peas with tall brushwood, arching the tops together. It saves space, avoids trampling on the vines in picking and secures a uniform development of the fruit on all sides.

### Ornithogalum Thyrsoides.

A new and beautiful flowering bulbous plant from Natal, in South Africa. It should be potted during the fall in pots of suitable size, from four to six inches, in turfy loam and leaf mould, with a free admixture of sand. It is not unusual for the plant to show for bloom at Christmas, throwing up stems from two to three feet high, producing a spike of snow white flowers, with a yellow centre. It is not unusual for it to produce from fifty to sixty flowers upon a spike. The flowers individually are of good size and beautifully formed. If not kept in too high a temperature, it remains in bloom for three or four weeks. It is of very easy cultivation, and we think one of the best things which have been introduced of late years. We noticed during the spring of the present year a small but unique specimen of the above, flowering in the collection of Mr. John Saul, of Washington, D. C.—D. B. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

### A Cattle Show of the Old Times.

Nearly a year ago a new State Agricultural Society was organized in Baltimore, and last winter the State Legislature made it a liberal endowment. This was designed to enable the society to purchase permanent grounds, and it was hoped the city council and the citizens of Baltimore would have given such further aid as would have enabled the association to fit up its grounds and put forth such a premium list as would have drawn forth an exhibition creditable to the agriculture of the State. Such hopes are disappointed. The city treasury is bankrupted by magnificent schemes of various sorts, and a purpose so beneficial to all the interests of the city and State was too modest in its pretensions to gain favor at the hands of our city fathers. In Virginia, North Carolina and other of our sister States which were overrun and devastated by war, there is spirit and energy enough to get up numerous exhibitions, but in Maryland the attempt fails flatly.

Just one hundred and twenty years ago things were different. The General Assembly ordained that a fair should be held in Baltimore town on the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday of October yearly, and the commissioners of the said town made all necessary arrangements, a list of premiums, &c.

We find a record of this in the old Maryland Gazette, one of the few papers published at that time in the Colonies, and which was continued to the death of the late Jonas Green, of Annapolis, having been published in turn by Jonas Green

the elder, his widow, Mrs. Catharine Green, and last by their son, with whom it died; an Ever-Green, as it was called by McMahon. The Gazette of September 8th, 1747, published the proceedings of the commissioners of Baltimore town, as follows:

"Whereas there is a fair appointed by act of Assembly to be held in Baltimore town on the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday in October, yearly, the commissioners of the said town hereby give notice that whoever brings to the said fair, on the first day thereof, the best steer, shall receive eight pounds current money for the same; also a bounty of forty shillings over and above eight pounds. The said steer afterwards, on the same day, to be run for by any horse, mare or gelding, not exceeding five years old, three heats, a quarter of a mile each heat, not confined to carry any certain weight. The winning horse to be entitled to the said steer, or to eight pounds in money, at the option of the owner.

"On Friday, the second day of said fair, will be run for the sum of five pounds current money, by any horse, mare or gelding, the same distance, not confined to carry any certain weight. Also a bounty of forty shillings will be given to any person who produces the best piece of yard-wide country-made linen, the piece to contain twenty yards.

"On Saturday, the third day, a hat and ribbon will be cudgelled for; a pair of pumps wrestled for; and a *white shift* to be run for by negro girls.

"All persons are exempted from any arrests during the said fair and the day before and the day after, except in case of felony and breaches of the peace, according to the tenure of the above-mentioned act."

It will not be claimed that the premiums of this fair were magnificent, yet they were in full proportion, no doubt, to the expenditures then indulged in for town purposes; neither did they cover all the ground embraced in modern premium lists. In the leading element, however, of our modern "cattle shows," the horse-racing, it will be acknowledged that our forefathers were not behind us. They did not confine themselves to a trot, nor was their phrase puritanized into "trial of speed." It was honest running, and they didn't care who knew it.

Their first premium was to encourage the production of good beef, which as loyal Englishmen they were bound to do. This bore directly on their own interests in the beef market of Baltimore town and the interest of agriculture. The premiums for horse-racing were for about the same purposes that are answered now—a good deal

for the universal excitement and interest, and something for the improvement of the breed of horses.

The premium for "yard wide country-made linen" was intended to attract and interest and compliment the notable housewives of the day, when the best ladies of the land, like Solomon's "virtuous woman," would "seek wool and flax, and work willingly with their hands." We remember, by the way, something of this country-made linen which our good mothers made. It was not just the *fine* linen that the Proverbs describe, nor does our memory go back to the days of this fair we are speaking of. On the Maryland farm, where the writer of this was born, there was a crop of flax grown each year, which was broken, hackled, spun and woven at home, as was all the crop of wool. Of this linen was made the summer pants and shirts of the negro men, the frocks and shifts of the negro women, and for their summer wear there were long shirts for the boys and long shifts for the girls. It was made also into towels for the family use, and were rough enough at first but soon wore smooth and soft. We never tried it for shirt wear, but an acquaintance of ours having donned a garment of this material, respectfully asked his father to permit one of the negro boys "to break it" for him. This "country-made" was of a dark color, and the "white shift" in the premium list of the fathers of Baltimore town was doubtless of Irish linen, and considered a splendid holiday outfit for a sable maiden of that day, albeit it scandalizes the progressed ideas which enlighten us now.

The third day of our Baltimore fair of 1747 was given, it will be seen, purely to amusement and simple jollity, when all were free to enjoy themselves, and when the negroes, taking a share in the games, had no doubt a full share of all the fun and frolic.

We are not of those who sigh continually for "the good old days." We are willing to go on with "the times" in all that is wise and good. But we have been, and are too "utilitarian," and in this very matter may take a lesson from our fathers. A cattle show should not be all for profit and mere material use, but should combine these with such well-chosen entertainments and amusements as will bring our people together at least once a year in social gathering. Baltimore city should do, on a grand scale, what Baltimore town did according to her ability, make all needful preparation for such a convocation, and open all doors to the comers.—*Weekly Sun*.

### Deep Ploughing and Double Michigan Sod and Subsoil Plough.

It was once said by a very wise man "that there was nothing so unreliable as facts unless it was figures." We presume this alluded to the way they are sometimes placed, as truth may be so stated as to convey a false meaning; but there is no doubt that the facts and figures of the last few years develop unmistakeably the truth that the average acreable production of our great staple crops in the Atlantic states have greatly diminished. We believe this to be owing to continuous shallow ploughing. [Since the first settlement of the country four to five inches of soil only have been annually turned up. This depth has been ploughed and manured and stirred and cropped over and over again, till it has been exhausted of certain mineral elements in the food of plants, as indispensable to their healthy growth and perfection as those usually called organic, resulting from vegetable or animal decomposition. But, says the farmer, "What, bring up the yellow clay—the sterile subsoil! We shall have no crops; neither corn, nor wheat, nor potatoes will grow on it." We have answered, we don't wish or expect them to grow in it *exclusively*. but we want the upper and under stratum mixed, incorporated, worked thoroughly together, exposed to atmospheric gases and amelioration, turned up side down and down side up, stirred, ventilated, aerated. You are tired of working the old farm, and want a *new* one; and instead of going 2000 miles after it in the far west, we have advised such dissatisfied farmers to take the one offered to them, immediately *under* the one they have been cultivating, and for which no extra title-deeds or payments are necessary. It is an entirely new farm, and virgin soil, on which there has not been a squatter since the country was first settled. To those who doubt of there being any strength in this yellow and *apparently* sterile subsoil, 14 inches under the surface, we would ask an explanation of the enriching and extraordinary effects of yellow soil from the bottom of a well 12 to 15 feet deep. We have known white clover to grow most luxuriantly, after this was spread over the surface, where none had grown before. Every farmer must have seen such results himself. We know of one person who had a most extraordinary growth of oats after earth from the digging of a cellar, five feet deep, had been spread *one foot thick*. There must be *something* of value in it.

We are warm friends, both from theory and practice, of the Double Michigan or Sod and Subsoil Plough. Most of our readers know this to consist of two ploughs on a single beam, the

small one in front of the other, in operating, taking off about five inches of the surface soil, letting the hinder plough lift and put immediately on top of this, seven to nine inches deeper. "But," say some, "would it not be better merely to *stir and loosen* this, without bringing so much yellow stuff to the top?" Our answer is, No; if it was rich soil, we might let it lay there, and the roots would find it; but being *comparatively* poor, we cannot *afford* this, but must have it on the surface, where we can control it, pulverize and aerate it, and avail ourselves of its absorbent power—the power of *drawing* on the fertilizing gases of the atmosphere. We want inversion, and not merely stirring; our object and intention being to get a depth of what is popularly called soil, fourteen inches, at least *as* black and *as* good in every particular, as the present four or five inches, and to obtain this in the shortest possible time. We want a larger reservoir of plant food. Our practice therefore is to plough with the Double Michigan, for corn, 14 inches deep. We stimulate in the hill the early growth of the corn in its rather cold seed bed, but the roots soon find their way down to the surface soil which has been inverted, and before the growing season is over the crop has taken root downward and sprang upward, untouched and unaffected by drought, and yielding heavy returns of bright glazed, heavy, well-ripened ears, as if the roots had been fairly revelling in the profusion of their appropriate food. There are two other great advantages of ploughing 14 inches deep, in guarding against the effects of excessive drought or too much rain, either of which is injurious to the growth of plants. In a very wet season the superabundant moisture passes down instead of settling at the roots, to their great injury, and the ground, even after heavy rains, can soon be worked. In the event of a severe drought the roots penetrate the subsoil for moisture, which is drawn up by capillary attraction, and their growth is not interrupted. In the county where we reside a friend once complained to us of the trouble he had got himself into by visitors stopping to inquire what was the matter with a certain portion of his corn field. As an experiment, in a corn-field along the roadside he had caused his men to dig a few feet square to the depth of three feet. A drought ensued that summer, of great severity, so that the corn fields in midsummer looked as brown as in winter. The stalks were killed, but on the dug portion of the same soil, and in other respects under the same treatment, the corn continued growing through the season without interruption, and the green spot in a desert of



dry corn-stalks attracted the attention of passers-by to know the reason. In the fall of the year he carefully traced corn roots to the depth of three feet. We have therefore to say that ploughing seven inches deep is good, ploughing and subsoiling is better, and ploughing 14 inches with the Double Michigan and inverting the subsoil is the best of all, connecting this, however, the first season with the proper use of fertilizers, but the second season, when the Double Michigan is again used, and what was once top soil is again brought to light, enriched with mineral constituents washed down into it from the surface, and there is a through incorporation of soil and subsoil, look out for great results, but do not expect any half crops. *—Practical Farmer.*

### Waste of Force in Vegetation.

Every one interested in Horticulture knows how uncertain is the successful cultivation of the grape in the United States. The vines usually flourish well for a few years, but in most instances become the prey of numerous diseases before they become of any great age.

In remarkable contrast with this general failure is the fact that grape vines growing over trees are generally healthy and fruitful to a remarkable extent. Branches from unhealthy vines on trellises, when they can get to ramble over on twiggy branches of a neighboring tree, resume the health and vigor lost by the parent or main vine.

These facts have had numerous observers and are generally admitted. They have been frequently discussed in horticultural journals, but every theory hitherto brought forward has been refuted. For instance, it has been suggested that the partial shade afforded by the tree when growing over low bushes, on hot banks, exposed to hot and dry temperatures, as when luxuriating among the shady branches of the tallest trees.

Again, it has been suggested that as the vine is supposed to like a dry soil, the roots of the tree tended to absorb superfluous moisture, and thus furnished the best conditions for vine roots, but healthy vines are found on trees in impassable swamps, besides, the cases of branches from trellises before alluded to, answer this supposition. Some have thought that as the foreign vine, growing under glass, thrives there so well, principally on account of humid atmosphere, the evaporation from the trees' foliage might benefit the vine growing over it, but it has been further observed that they grow as well over dead trees as over living ones; and so on, in like manner, every theory has been refuted, and the true reason unexplained.

I think Mr. Darwin's discovery of tendril motion will afford the answer to this phenomenon, and enable us to form a new theory as to the origin and employment of force in vegetable growth.

Mr. Darwin has shown that the tendrils of plants are in continuous motion for a long time until they find something to cling to, when motion at once ceases. Motion is an attribute of vital force; and vital force, whatever be its origin, must be sustained by nutrition.

There are two forms of motion. The one we call growth, which is the motion of the cells individually; the other, in animals, we call muscular motion, is the movement of the cells collectively. This tendril motion, unnamed because until lately unknown, is analogous to animal muscular motion, in its being a collective movement of the parts.

In animals we know that nutrition will only supply a given amount of force, and that if muscular motion receives an undue proportion of this force, growth (cell motion) suffers. In common language, the over-run horse gains no flesh. On the other hand, the disuse of muscular power fattens the animal. If the same division of motion exists in plants, and Mr. Darwin's paper shows it does, it necessarily follows that if one gets more than its due share, the healthful balance is destroyed—in other words, the force necessary for excessive tendril motion in the grape vine exhausts the nutritive powers of the plant to supply; growth suffers, and disease ensues.

To apply this principle to the case of unsuccessful grape culture, we find in no system of grape management is any provision made for arresting tendril motion,—but on the tree thousands of little twigs invite the tendrils at every turn. No motion is expended except for that we might almost term healthful exercise,—the balance is used in growth.

Observation on many species of climbing vines under similar circumstances confirms these views. The growth and general healthfulness of every kind of vine, is in exact proportion to the climbing facilities afforded it. The garden pea will furnish a ready means of testing this proposition. It will be found that difference in vigor, general healthfulness, and longevity, is strikingly in favor of those grown on twiggy branches. Peas unstaked, grow weakly, bear early and sparing, and die young. Honeysuckles ramble to great heights and have large luxuriant foliage on fine wire trellises, but when dangling to one straight stick they grow very little indeed. The most striking instance that came under my observation was in some *Wistaria sinensis* which had been trained to form self supporting dwarf trees.

The branches would only grow two or three feet in a season, but a few of the shoots in time bending over and reaching the ground, where they found a natural support, would grow thirty feet during a single season. The observations in this way were so uniform, and the materials being everywhere, any one can verify this without it being necessary for me to particularize further instances.

Every effort of nature is but an endeavor to accomplish an object. The history of a plant's life is a struggle with gravitation. The purpose of that struggle is with the Author of its existence but its immediate object is to elevate itself from the earth. The force required for this is very great. In its young days, however, it goes on with vigor,—taking no thought as it were of to-morrow,—but, as it grows older, it becomes bowed down by the weight of its own accumulations; gravity tells on its wide-spreading branches, reminding it of the growing weakness. It then prepares itself for its final dissolution by producing fruit, which, fully accomplished, the struggle with gravitation ceases, and dust to dust returns.

The whole of this enormous motive force must, as we have seen, be derived from nutrition,—and the proper proportion due to each form of motion must be provided and paid to it, or deranged action be the inevitable consequence.—*Gardener's Monthly.*

### Steaming Hay.

MESSRS. EDITORS: In answer to Allen Whedon, West Pawlet, Vt., in the Co. Gent., I will say that "steaming feed for milch cows" is a success, so far as making milk is concerned, and using poor fodder. I will give my experience and let your readers draw their own inferences.

Five years ago I prepared a steam box directly over the boiler in my barn cellar, made a wooden cover to the boiler, fitting it steam tight, and through rubber tubes conveyed the steam into a perforated iron pipe running the length of the steam box. I then put my cut hay, straw, &c., into the box, wetting it thoroughly as I put it in; if not thus wet the steam will dry it so as to destroy its nourishing qualities. After filling the boiler with water and making my connections, box and cover steam tight, lighted my fire and kept the water boiling briskly for about four hours, when I found the mass to be pretty thoroughly cooked, and of such nature that my cattle liked it exceedingly well. By adding a liberal supply of corn meal and shorts when

filling the box, you have a mass resembling in flavor a new made loaf of brown-bread, on which the cattle do very well, though the material cooked be of an inferior quality.

I pursued this course one winter, and am now prepared to prove that I can make more milk from a fair quality of meadow hay thus prepared, than can be made from the best quality of upland hay fed dry. Add two quarts of meal to each day's feed per cow, before steaming it, and two quarts per cow to the dry hay, and the advantages are still more apparent. I now have a simpler way of preparing my feed, and one I like quite as well.

I take a large feed box, with a tight cover, and into this I put my feed, wetting each layer with boiling water, shaking the hay so as to have each part thoroughly wet. I then tramp it down solid as possible, put on another layer, and proceed as before till my box is filled. For my stock of 15 head I use 45 gallons of boiling water in mixing enough to last them two days. The box should then be closed, while another boiler of water is being heated, when 45 gallons more is poured evenly over the mass, the box closed, and allowed to stand about 12 hours before using. The feed is then softened, so as to be easily digested, and of nearly the same flavor as when in its green state; and my cattle prefer even poor meadow hay, thus prepared, to the best English hay when fed dry.

I have kept my stock for three winters last past, on poor hay and corn stover thus prepared, using meal not exceeding one quart per day to each cow, when not giving milk, feeding at least one quarter less hay than when fed dry, and been able to keep them looking quite well as my neighbors, who think meadow hay almost worthless, and steaming unnecessary.

About the middle of April last, having used my poor hay, for which I paid \$13 per ton, (English hay being then worth \$35,) I commenced feeding very nice early cut English hay, dry, to my milch cows, and to my surprise, I found that they decreased in their quantity of milk from one-quarter to one-third, and I was not able to increase that quantity till they went to grass, though I doubled their quantity of grain.

In conclusion, allow me to say that, from the extra work, I can winter 40 cows on steamed feed for one-third less expense than on dry; can get at least one-quarter more milk, and keep them in as good thriving condition.

This decision is the result of five years' experience in steaming feed. S. N. THOMPSON.  
*Southboro, Mass.—Co. Gent.*

### Oxen against Horses.

It is said by a distinguished Frenchman, in illustration of the difficulty of overcoming old habits, old prejudices and old tastes, and the value of the services of the society over which he presides—the French Society of Acclimatization—that it is only within fifty years past that the potato has become duly naturalized in that country—at least brought into common use—though known for more than three centuries. The same difficulty is presented continually, especially among farmers—the reluctance to leave old ways, and the difficulty of adopting ideas which, however their value may be demonstrated, take them out of their old tracks.

We mean to apply this general remark to a matter of farm economy, which should be especially impressed now on the agricultural community; we mean the use of oxen as a substitute for horses in the general work of the farm. For how many years has it been known and acknowledged that oxen, with like treatment, will do about the same amount of heavy work—hauling of every kind and ploughing—as horses, at greatly less cost for keeping, and that after a number of years, when the horse is depreciated full fifty per cent., the ox is worth for beef as much as ever. Yet those who use oxen to any considerable degree are only exceptions to the rule. Hoping to see some change for the better in so important a matter, we offer some testimony from sources of the best character here in Maryland.

The first is that of a distinguished Maryland farmer, the late William Carmichael, Esq., of Queen Anne's county. In a communication to the American Farmer, many years ago, he has the following: "This summer the drought was very severe in this region, and particularly grievous in this district. The ground was so hard in August, when I commenced breaking my fallow, that I despaired of accomplishing the work by horse-power. I keep a large force of oxen for drawing marl and other manures, and I started ox-ploughs, in addition to my horse, by which I accomplished the work. Oxen are rarely used here for the plough, but I found their performance very satisfactory; they require the additional service of a boy to drive the fore team; even in hot weather, four oxen, with a suitable plough, broke more ground in a day than three horses. Breaking my grounds in the spring for corn, and in the summer for wheat, is my most difficult operation on the farm by horses. My usual number is fifteen, and after the ground is broken, all the work could be performed by ten. Horses on the farm are a sinking fund,

oxen an improving one. I break all my young steers to the yoke at three years old, and after rendering good service they double their value at six." Mr. Carmichael's oxen, it is seen, were only such as were used on many farms for farm hauling, and were in charge of negro drivers, who abuse them as much as they use them, and in whose hands they are, therefore, of the least value. We give now the testimony of another clear-sighted and well-known farmer of Maryland who, seeing the gain to come of their systematic employment, took hold himself, and demonstrated all the value of oxen as general farm-workers. This was Edward Stabler, of Montgomery.

In a communication published by the late John S. Skinner, in "The Plough, Loom and Anvil," he relates first how he came to give them a trial. "Like many others, with slender resources, and in my case with impaired health from a city life, I began farming with horses to do my ploughing, and, indeed, my farm-work generally. I had also a yoke of oxen. With no experience in my new vocation, it was necessary to superintend considerable hauling for building, and it was here I was first made aware of the decided advantage of the ox over the horse. The horses were not always true at the pinch, when every effort was required, and the oxen we usually had to rely on at last to get out of our difficulties. There were other advantages in their use evident in this early stage of my agricultural education, if not so important, yet quite as apparent. One was the expense of harness, eight to one at least in favor of the ox, and the time saved in getting to work. We could often yoke up and get through with a short job before the horses were harnessed and ready for work." Alluding then to the prejudice against the use of oxen, the difficulty of having them properly handled, and the objection so ready that oxen could not stand the heat of summer, it might do at the north, &c., he says: "In 1822 or '23 I resolved to give the plan a fair trial, and with this view worked the oxen and took hold of the plough handles myself, and began in midsummer to break up a fallow field for wheat. For a day or two the oxen suffered greatly with the heat in the middle of the day, but, by rising with the dawn and resting two or three hours at noon, and also feeding on dry food, I found nearly as much was ploughed by the oxen as by the horses worked by the hired man, and quite as well done—the horses consuming about one bushel of grain per day, the oxen none. The horses walked faster, but the oxen turned in less time, and the difference in the amount of work was not very mate-

rial. The oxen, though generally slower, will be found much the more sure by those who are placed under similar circumstances.

"This was a successful experiment in every respect, and has been carried out to the letter; sanctioned also by subsequent experience and practice for twenty-five years. For many years there was not a furrow ploughed on the farm, except by oxen, which enabled me to begin, and successfully carry out, to a considerable extent, a system of improving my nearly worn-out land. This could not have been effected, at least not by the best management I was capable of, by the use of horses alone in anything like the same time, or without more capital than was at my disposal.

"To determine the best mode of working oxen to the plough, I used both the tongue and the chain; the latter was found preferable on all accounts. The team turns in less space and in less time, and by it the depth is also regulated with more facility by merely lengthening or shortening the chain. For the use of oxen the beam should be set rather lower than for horses—fourteen to fifteen inches is the proper height for the former, and seventeen to eighteen for the horses—the line of draft being lower in the one than the other.

"Oxen, if properly broken, quite as readily, if not more so, take to and keep the furrow as horses. We do not think of having either a line or driver even with a double yoke, and in the plough, except when breaking-in young cattle—the word of the ploughman or the motion of the whip being all-sufficient.

"To judge of the capabilities of the ox by the badly used, houseless, overtasked, and half-fed animals we sometimes see in the yoke, is doing him great injustice. Treat the horse in the same unfeeling manner, and where would be his high mettle and noble spirit? He would speedily arrive at a premature old age, valueless to his owner, and a cast-off to feed the carrion crows. That the ox can better stand this hard usage, is certainly no valid or sufficient reason that he should be subjected to it. Use him with equal care and humanity, and he will just as certainly, and with more profit, pay it to his owner.

"In hauling limestone with oxen, we generally make a trip of five or six miles and back in half to three-fourths of a day; and we have made the trip to Washington and back in twenty-four hours—distance twenty miles—and light loads both ways, and resting in the heat of the day in warm weather.

"I usually keep two yoke of oxen to one pair of horses, the first cost being generally about the same, but here the parallel ends. It costs much

less to keep, and in good order, too, the two yoke than one pair of horses, and they will do more work. The expense and wear and tear of harness is eight or ten per cent, to one in favor of the oxen, and for most farm purposes, such as hauling rails, stone, fuel and manure, they are decidedly preferable. We use them exclusively for hauling hay or grain into the barn. A single yoke will more readily go in with a ton or a ton and a half of hay, and at an angle on the bridge of 5° to 6°. They understand the business perfectly, there is no need of the whip—at a single word every muscle is exerted, and, if necessary, strained to the utmost. Add to these advantages the relative value of each team, after five or six years' services under humane treatment, the ox, with a season's rest and good pasture, is worth at least first cost in beef."

Let it be hoped that on such testimony this important point of economy will receive more attention at the hands of those concerned.

#### Test of Early Potatoes.

G. W. J., of Cumberland county, New Jersey, writes to the *Country Gentleman* as follows about the yield this year of the White Sprout and Early Goodrich potatoes:

In this locality the Michigan White Sprouts, as they are called, have been considered the potato for the first or earliest crop. Having read in your valuable paper the good results of the Early Goodrich, I purchased two barrels at \$9 each, and one of White Sprouts at \$4.25. Each had the appearance of being good in quality. The ground for planting was a clover sward, ploughed and subsoiled the last of February, after which a good dressing of lime was harrowed in. The potatoes were planted the 2d of April, in rows 75 yards long, 3 feet apart and 1 foot in the row, cut in four equal parts. They were manured from the same compost, composed of green sand marl and barnyard manure, and cultivated alike throughout. I commenced digging the first day of July, and found 3½ full baskets of Early Goodrich, and only 1½ baskets of White Sprouts to each row; two weeks later there were four of Early Goodrich and two of White Sprouts per row. Though not so large a crop as some have had, for me at least it is not hard to decide which to plant hereafter.

**PRESERVING GRAPES.**—The French are said to have a method of preserving grapes by dipping the thoroughly ripe bunches in lime water having the consistency of cream. When wanted for the table, immerse them in hot water and the lime will be removed.

### Fruit List for Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and other States of like Latitude.

The editor of the Germantown (Pa.) Telegraph is pretty well posted on fruits for his locality, and his list may be considered as reliable as those of any other fruit grower. Of course, no one is perfect in that branch of business, and all are more or less deficient in a knowledge of some good varieties, of which they make no mention. We should read what different men say, and then act, in making purchases, according to the best evidence before us. Col. Freas says:

According to our present preference, we should select the following for our planting, viz:—

#### STANDARD PEARS.

- |                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Early Catharine.        | 8. Gifford.   |
| 2. Juliana.                | 9. Shelden.   |
| 3. Manning's Elizabeth.    | 10. Buffum.   |
| 4. Tyson.                  | 11. Anjou.    |
| 5. Bartlett.               | 12. Lawrence. |
| 6. Seckel.                 | 13. Potts.    |
| 7. St. Michael d'Archange. | 14. Feaster.  |

Of the above, from No. 1 to 4 are summer varieties; from 5 to 10, autumn; 11, 12, 13 and 14, winter; thus affording a sufficient number for each of the periods, of the best known sorts for this region. We desire to add in this connection, that our friend Judge Kessler, of Reading, Pa., brought us a number of specimens of the new pear known as the "Reading," about the 10th of February, which were perfectly sound, and we think might be easily kept until March or longer. By placing them in a warm room for a couple of days, they became soft and were of excellent flavor, being very juicy and sprightly. They were medium in size, and we are informed that the tree is an abundant bearer. We shall introduce it at once upon our premises.

#### DWARF PEARS.

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. St. Michael d'Archange. | 6. Boussock.        |
| 2. Bartlett.               | 7. Belle Lucrative. |
| 3. Comice.                 | 8. Lawrence.        |
| 4. Hostieser.              | 9. Potts.           |
| 5. Diehl.                  | 10. Feaster.        |

#### APPLES.

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Maiden's Blush. | 5. Smith's Cider. |
| 2. Baldwin.        | 6. Northern Spy.  |
| 3. L. I. Russett.  | 7. Farnwalder.    |
| 4. Jefferia.       | 8. McClellan.     |

If any of our friends can furnish a more desirable list of apples, we should like to hear from them. We know there are a couple of new sorts just introduced, but we have no knowledge as to their value as a general crop.

#### PEACHES.

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Crawford's Early. | 4. Oldmixon, (free)   |
| 2. George IV.        | 5. Oldmixon, (cling.) |
| 3. Morris White.     | 6. Bergen's Yellow.   |

If any of the peach growers of New Jersey, Delaware or Maryland, can give us a better list, even by increasing the number of varieties to a

dozen, we shall be pleased to hear from them. We do not grow apples or peaches, and base our selections upon the general opinion of farmers and others, and judging when we have the opportunity from the appearance of the orchard, the exhibitions of horticultural and agricultural societies, and the reports of the committees.

#### GRAPES.

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Telegraph.         | 5. Rogers, No. 4.  |
| 2. Concord.           | 6. Rogers, No. 32. |
| 3. Hartford Prolific. | 7. Creveling.      |
| 4. Rogers, No. 1.     | 8. Delaware.       |

We restore the Delaware to our list of grapes this season, still believing that by selecting a warm exposure, and planting shallow, a fair crop may be obtained for private use.

#### CHERRIES.

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. May Duke.        | 5. Germantown.       |
| 2. Early Richmond.  | 6. Belle Magnifique. |
| 3. Black Tartarian. | 7. Downton.          |
| 4. Black Eagle.     | 8. Kentish or Pie.   |

We restore the Kentish or Pie Cherry to our list. It ripens a week or ten days after the Early Richmond, and always, except in the most unfavorable seasons, gives a large crop of sound fruit. We omit the Governor Wood, because it does not generally mature its fruit. A rain, followed by a hot sun when the cherries are nearly ripe, will sometimes blast the whole crop. Its quality, however, is superior to all others. The "Germantown" is the largest cherry grown, is handsome in appearance, an abundant bearer of sound fruit, and very good in quality.

#### RASPBERRIES.

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Brickle's Orange. | 3. Catawissa.    |
| 2. Hornet.           | 4. Philadelphia. |

We cultivate all these varieties of the raspberry, in addition to the Hudson River Antwerp and the old Purple. We omit the Hudson River from our list, and substitute the Philadelphia. The Hudson River is an excellent berry; rather better than the Hornet, which it resembles, though not so large, but it is not so hardy or a good grower, and unless care is taken will "run out" in a few years. The Catawissa is the two-crop variety, which every one ought to cultivate for the autumn crop only, but cutting all the canes clean off to the ground in November, and covering the stools with manure.

#### STRAWBERRIES.

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Russell's Prolific. | 3. Hovey's Seedling. |
| 2. Triomphe de Gand.   | 4. Albany Seedling.  |

At present we are not prepared to change our strawberry list. There are many new candidates for public favor, but for family use and market combined we know of none to be preferred to the foregoing. In retaining the Albany Seedling, it is done expressly for marketing purposes.



Those who have room for only one or two kinds for private use, we recommend Hovey's Seedling (which is a pistillate) and the Triomphe or Russell's Prolific (staminate) to be planted in alternate beds of three feet in width, allowing eighteen inches space between them. With proper cultivation a crop is next to a certainty.

#### CURRENTS.

1. Black Naples.
2. Red Dutch.

We consider these two the best currants. We have the cherry currant, which is larger than the Red Dutch, but it is too acid; while the White Grape, which is of good size and flavor, and transparent in appearance, is a poor grower, of sprawling habit, and bears mostly near the ground, which dirties the fruit and extracts the flavor.

#### GOOSEBERRIES.

1. Houghton.
2. Downing.

These are the two best and most profitable cultivated. All the huge imported kinds are thick-skinned, tough, and sure to mildew.

#### BLACKBERRIES.

1. New Rochelle.
2. Dorchester.

The new Rochelle blackberry produces a better crop, perhaps, than the Dorchester, and the later ripened berries retain their flavor more entirely; but the first ripening of the Dorchester is sweeter and more delicious than the other. A new variety called the "Kittatinny," from the Kittatinny mountain, near the Delaware Water Gap, is well spoken of, but we reserve our opinion for the present.

It is better that those who intend to cultivate fruit, and have to make purchases, should take this list with them to the nursery, and adhere to it as far as possible. It is not fair to the nurseryman to ask him for a list of the best sorts, as he has all kinds to sell so accommodate every taste and demand.

### Straw Sheds for Winter Shelter.

"Progress Farmer" writes us from Iowa, to "urge farmers—especially western ones—who lack ample barns, sheds and stables for sheltering their stock in winter, to make their straw stacks available for this purpose. Threshing time is the proper season to construct these cheap shelters. Erect a frame of strong posts and poles and stack the straw on and around it, so as to form a shed. But little labor is expended thus, and a great deal of comfort and of course profit, is derived from it." The idea is practical; we endorse it.—*Rural New Yorker*.

### Corn Cribs.

A good corn crib is as necessary on a farm, as a good barn. It should be so constructed that the corn will not be at all exposed to storms, and also so that it will not mould, when not thoroughly matured.

We have a very good one, built as follows: First, we set six posts in the ground for a foundation, 18 inches high, with the tops cut square off, to receive the sills, which are six inches square.


Next, the superstructure was put on, 20 feet long, and six feet wide at the bottom, six feet nine inches at the top, and seven feet high, with a double pitch roof.

The studs being set, the next operation was to lay the floor, which consisted of slats three inches wide, put down, with three-fourths of an inch open space between each, to allow a free current of air upwards. The sides were next slatted in the same manner, on the inside of the studs; but if we were to construct another crib, we would lay the slats outside, as we do not believe that the corn would press them off, if well nailed with tenpenny nails.

The crib now being slatted all round, we next set a row of studs 3x3 through the centre of the crib, and slatted up both sides, leaving an open space three inches wide between the slats, and over an opening in the floor slatting, so as to allow a free current of air to pass up from under the crib and between the two bins of corn. On this plan the floor slatting should run lengthwise of the crib, and an opening two inches wide should be left in the centre, where the studs are to go.

At the end where the door is, which is on one side, opening directly into the right hand bin, the partition in the middle is extended only to within two and a half feet of the end, so as to allow the corn to be carried into the left hand bin, and when it is filled the doorway is boarded up, with any pieces of board suitable, being laid in as the corn rises, and not nailed.

Such a crib will hold five or six hundred bushels of corn in the ear, and it will keep in the best of condition, none moulding even when the fall is wet, and the corn put in in a less ripe condition than is desirable.—*Rural American*.

 A Merino ram's fleece, cleansed recently in Springfield, Vt., weighed, unwashed, 17 lbs. 8 oz., and after cleaning weighed 7 lbs. 8½ oz. The carcass of the sheep weighed 116 lbs.

### Experiments with Manures.

Mr. Howard, in his Fifth Annual Report as Secretary of the Michigan State Board of Agriculture, records the results of some valuable experiments by Prof. Kedzie, of the State Agricultural College, which have an important bearing upon successful agricultural practice. I refer particularly at this time to the experiments instituted the 12th of June, to test the relative absorption of the volatile products of decomposition in manures, when placed on the surface of the ground, or buried beneath it.

A layer of fresh horse manure, and another similar layer of hen manure was spread upon the surface to the depth of one inch. The same quantity of hen manure was buried in the soil to the depth of four inches. The ammonia produced by the fermentation of the manure, and which otherwise would have escaped into the air, was absorbed and retained by plates containing diluted sulphuric acid covered with inverted barrels. It is to be regretted that a comparison of the relative loss, when manure is placed on the bare surface or buried beneath it, was prevented by an accident to the third barrel. On analyzing on the 8th of August, the contents of the plates under the first two barrels mentioned, the acid in the plate over the horse manure had absorbed 1.96 grains of ammonia or at the rate of 6.44 pounds per acre, that over the hen manure 3.453 grains of ammonia or at the rate of 13.8 pounds per acre.

These experiments, I am glad to learn, are to be repeated, the object for which they were instituted, owing to the accident, as yet being only partially attained. As conducted thus far they prove most conclusively the truthfulness of what we have lately had occasion to urge, that when unfermented vegetables or animal matters, including green sward, green crops and long manure are ploughed under preparatory to a wheat crop, they should not again be exposed to the sun and winds by cross ploughing until they have become thoroughly decomposed; that whilst the most thorough and perfect pulverising of clay soils was highly essential to render available their undecomposed and insoluble mineral matters, this object could be effectually attained by the frequent use of the wheel cultivator and gang plough; that the volatile portions of the green manures that had been buried by the plough, would thus be absorbed and retained in the soil, instead of being dissipated and lost.

When the first ploughing for a wheat crop is done early in the season, ordinarily, the animal and vegetable matters buried in the soil will be sufficiently decomposed to be brought up again

to the surface before the season of fallowing is finally ended. In stiff, tenacious clay soils, where their lower strata contain a large amount of decomposed animal and vegetable matters, rendering them more loose and friable, the union of the fertilizing gases evolved by fermentation not taking place so readily at the surface of the earth as in less tenacious soils, it may, perhaps, be advisable to do so. On soils less tenacious, where the ameliorating effects of the sun, air and fermenting gases have had time to exercise their influence during the season of tillage, with the cultivator or gang plough, the soil brought up to the surface at the first ploughing becomes admirably fitted for the purposes of the wheat crop in the early stages of its growth.

It is a fact well known to many observing farmers in preparing their summer fallows, that the soil first brought up to the surface by the plough when not turned back again, becomes many shades darker before the time for sowing arrives. This change is doubtless effected by the gasses evolved by the decomposition of vegetable matter buried by the plough, and again enriching the surface soil with the requisite nutriment for the young and tender plant. As the season advances, the extending roots of the growing plants, reaching the lower strata, obtain from the decomposed mineral elements of the manure turned under and from other sources, the sustenance needed in perfecting its growth.

Marshall, Mich.

W. R. SCHUYLER.

### A Question About Manure.

It is the general practice in this country to allow the manure formed in the barnyard during the winter to remain there until seeding time in the fall. Is this an economical plan? Does not the manure undergo considerable loss in the yard during the warm weather of summer?

It has been calculated by those who have had experience and the means of ascertaining, that for every ten hundred weight of dry fodder, hay or straw used, the farmer may expect from twenty to twenty-five hundred weight of manure, *in the spring*.

This ten hundred weight of dry food and straw will, as before stated, produce from twenty to twenty-five hundred weight of fresh dung, which, at the end of six weeks will weigh but twenty-one hundred; at the end of eight weeks but twenty; when half rotten but from fifteen to seventeen; when entirely rotten, but from ten to thirteen.

Thus, we see that by the time the manure is fully rotten, one-fourth of the weight is lost, and the mass is diminished in bulk one half. These re-

marks apply to manure which is left exposed to the action of the sun and rain.

The main loss is in water; but there is a very large loss in ammonia and other volatile substances, which are evaporated by the heat of the sun, or washed out by the rain.

The question, then, is: Would it not be better to haul the manure out to the field in the spring and plough it under, so that what loss by decomposition and fermentation does take place may be absorbed by the soil?

If enriching the soil was the only object in view, it would without doubt be most economical to plough the manure under as soon as possible after it is formed; but there are other points to be considered, as, for instance, the state of the soil with regard to texture.

If the soil is light and very open, it would not be economical to plough in long or fresh manure, for it would have a tendency to make it still more so; the rain would wash the soluble portions of the manure too deep before they could be absorbed by the soil, and in this way a greater loss might be created than if the manure had remained in the barnyard. But in heavy or common soils it is undoubtedly more economical to plough in the straw and other manure while in a long and fresh state, for it will then have a tendency to render the soil more open and permit a more free passage of the air.

English farmers think this is by far the better plan, for it converts the whole field into a heap of compost, and fermentation goes on slowly, and as fast as the volatile portions are given off they are absorbed and retained by the soil.

The crop for which the manure is applied must also more or less influence the manner of application. If the crop is one which grows quickly and soon reaches maturity, it would not be economical to apply long, fresh manure, for the plant would be done growing before the manure was sufficiently decomposed to effect it much. But if, on the other hand, the crop is one which grows slowly, and it is desirable to furnish it with nourishment throughout its whole growth, then long manure will better accomplish the effect than common fermented or decomposed manure.

I consider that I obtain more from my manure by spreading it on the sod and ploughing it under for corn, than I do by keeping it, *even with the best care*, until fall, and applying it to the oats stubble to be ploughed in for wheat.

I think that the corn crop appropriates what would be lost by evaporation, had the manure been retained in the barnyard in the usual way. And when seeding times comes in the fall, the

manure is thoroughly incorporated with the soil and is ready to fertilize the wheat as soon as it begins to grow.

I do not find from several trials that the oats is sensibly affected by the manure, as I do not turn it up when ploughing for oats.—*B. B. T., of Robeson, Berks County, Pa., in Germantown Telegraph.*

### Home-made Concentrated Manures.

How deplorable is the improvidence or negligence or ignorance, call it what you will, of many of our farmers and planters, who give ruinous prices for concentrated manures of doubtful value, while they are surrounded at home with all the materials for making on their own farms, at half the cost, a better article than they can purchase from the manufacturers? We could point to many a homestead in Maryland and Virginia, around which the ashes from the dwelling and quarters have been accumulating for half century without being turned to account, and yet good farmers at the North are glad to give ten cents per bushel for wood ashes and haul them ten miles. The wonders wrought by Colonel Capron fifteen years ago in the improvement of poor lands around Laurel factory, between Baltimore and Washington, are due to the application of wood ashes brought from a distance of twenty miles. How rarely is the carcass of any domestic animal converted into manure? and yet a dead horse will make a cord of the best manure, abounding in nitrogen and fully worth ten dollars. How often, in riding across the country, do we see the skeletons of horses and cattle bleaching in useless decay? And yet, many a farmer gives, or complains he cannot give fifty cents a bushel for bone dust, when he could make it himself at twenty-five, simply by letting the loafers in his vicinity know that he will give half a cent per pound for old bones. We remember seeing on the road between Culpeper Court House and Woodville a huge golgotha accumulated in this way, and the bones, we were told, were dissolved in a weak solution of sulphuric acid and mixed with woods earth, producing a *homemade concentrated manure superior to the best Peruvian guano and at half the cost.*

The annexed on this subject was communicated to that able journal, *Southern Cultivator*, by a correspondent whose admiration of that noble old Roman, Governor Wise, cannot exceed our own.

In January, 1866, I wrote to Col. Nat. Tyler, of the *Richmond Enquirer*, respecting the commercial manures to be had in that locality. He handed my letter to Gen. Wise, to whom it made

reference in another connection, but who replied to this part of it in this wise. I extract from his letter as a favor to your readers.

"You can't have the concentrated manures sent to you, as you propose, at five times their value. *Make your own manure!* A pit two feet deep, eight by ten square—the bottom made firm and inclining to one corner; at the lower corner place a reservoir, sunk below the corner, to catch the fluid percolating through composts in pit; in that reservoir fix a hand pump; cover the pit by a roof on posts seven feet high above ground; then in the bottom of the pit lay muck eight inches thick; then cover the muck with the manure, four inches thick; then muck again eight inches, and then manure four inches; and so on until you reach up four feet high or four and a half, and then top off with muck—*muck at top and bottom.* On the top put a trough or shallow tray, with holes in the bottom: this tray, the same size of your compost heap, say eight feet long, four feet wide, and four and a half feet high—a full cord of more than one hundred and twenty-eight cubic feet. Then dissolve *one bushel* of salt in just water enough to dissolve it. Pour that brine in reservoir; then dissolve three bushels of lime in water to make a *strong milk of lime.* Pour that milk in the brine in the reservoir, and mix them well. Then put your tray on the compost heap, and pump the salt mixture into the tray, and let the mixture percolate through the compost. It will run back into the reservoir, and can be re-pumped, say once every two days, and in six days you will have a *cord of manure equal to guano.*

I shall try this process in the fall season. I know personally that Ex-Governor Wise is one of the best-informed and most practical men in America. It strikes me however, that the process he describes may be advantageously dispensed with, by making the compost heaps in the open field, and mixing the salt and lime mixture with the muck and manure, as the layers are put into the pens, and leaving them well covered, to be used on the ground at planting time. His process is indispensable to making a commercial manure for transportation.

I suggest it is not improbable that the same end, of enriching the soil, might be more advantageously attained by putting the muck and manure in the open furrow at once, pouring the mixture upon it, and covering it up with a turn plow. The whole subject is suggestive, and may prompt practical experiments of value.—*Turf, Field, and Farm.*

#### Atmospheric Plant Food—Organic Manures.

In my last I did not mean that a soil exhausted of the mineral elements of plants could be made by tillage to bear crops by atmospheric aid alone. The soil on which Mr. Lawes got fifteen bushels of wheat to the acre, year after year, without manuring, what was not exhausted of the mineral or inorganic elements: potash, phosphorous, lime, &c.; yet 200 lbs. of the sulphate of ammonia to the acre doubled the crop of wheat. This clearly shows to every farmer, the imperative necessity of well saving his stall manure, that the urine which contains the most of the nitrogen may be absorbed and served intact. Poor, rain-washed or fire-fanged stall manure has lost a great share of its nitrogen, although it still retains its mineral elements, capable only, as Mr. Lawes has proved, of producing half a crop.

As red clover, cow peas, and other leguminous plants are three times richer in nitrogen than the narrow-leaved grasses, they are especially valuable to plough under to enrich the soil with ammonia salts. Superphosphate of lime, if not made from burned bones, contains much ammonia as well as soluble phosphate of lime. Finely crushed bones, though not immediately soluble, soon give up their ammonia to the roots of plants, and the phosphate of lime becomes slowly soluble in a well tilled soil. But pure, dry Peruvian guano, is undoubtedly the most immediate amendment, according to its weight, of any of the commercial manures; and the fact that its power is so soon exhausted, only proves its superior solubility. What is lost in manure is saved in the crop.—*Rural New Yorker.*

A letter from Buenos Ayres says the wool clip this year will be 100,000,000 pounds, and that the recent rise in the tariff of the United States, has produced great dismay among the wool growers. For some years, great efforts have been made to refine the wools of that country, and in proportion, the finer wools pay less duty. No wools will go to the United States this year but those that are fine and clean. The shearing would begin this year, October 1. The wool bids fair to be finer, cleaner, free from burrs, and of better color than ever before.

A white wheat known as the "Wicks wheat" is said to be very popular in Cayuga county, N. Y. It is claimed that it does not easily winter kill, and will thicken up better than other varieties in case it is injured in this way, and that it brings a higher price than any other variety.

# The American Farmer.

Baltimore, November 1, 1867.

## TERMS OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

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Near Baltimore Street,

BALTIMORE.

### Financial.

We beg to ask the attention of subscribers to the bills we have sent or which they may know to be due. It would be a pleasant thing if the *Old Farmer* had so full a pocket that he might wait the leisure of his many good friends who really mean to pay at a more convenient season. But it is not so. He has gone through the wars without the benefit of a contract, and finds that paper makers and printers are still asking pay for their services, and that even to keep up his own working strength there is need still of victuals and drink, and a place for an aching head to rest.

Such are the occasions that require us to ask all such as can—to *mail* the price of subscription at our *risk*, and not to wait till they come to town.

Our new office, No. 4 South street, opposite the Sun building, can be easily found by those who may be in town.

The annexed notice of *The Farmer* by an able southern exchange will present another motive to many who *can* pay, in the fact that there are still so many who *cannot*.

The Mobile Sunday Times has the following:  
THE AMERICAN FARMER. Worthington & Lewis publishers, 52 South Gay street, Baltimore.

We have perused with interest the numbers of this magazine for July and August, the first of the current volume. This is the oldest agricultural publication in the United States, its origin dating from 1819, and has a larger country circulation than any one of the kind south of New York. One circumstance should commend it to the *feelings* of southern men—that on resumption of communication with the south, the *American Farmer* was sent, and still continues to be

sent to all its old southern subscribers, in the belief that such as do not pay for it are simply unable to do so. Some of them—but few, we fear—have paid up, wholly or partially, but no demand is made upon any of them. Such liberality should be duly recognized by a liberal subscription from all who can afford it. The terms are \$2 a year.

N. B. In remitting, write your own name and that of the office at which you receive the paper distinctly, and a receipt will be promptly returned.

THE ROCKBRIDGE AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL SOCIETY.—We take much pleasure in putting on record the following kindly and graceful acknowledgment of service from a source so worthy our respect. We can but attach “special importance” to appreciation of our labors by an association so beneficent, and were it at all within our power, would accept, with the compliment, the hospitalities so kindly tendered. In addition to the attractions our friends offer us, what spot so attractive as “Lexington in the Valley?”

LEXINGTON, VA., Oct. 7, 1867.

To the *Ed. American Farmer*:

DEAR SIR: In compliment to the valuable service rendered during the past half century, by the magazine of which you have the control, in promoting the material interests of our people by improving them in the various arts of husbandry, you have been constituted an honorary member of the Rockbridge Agricultural and Mechanical Society. This compliment we tender, not in any spirit of presumption, as though we attached, or expected you to attach to it any special importance, but the rather with a hope that you would construe it as a token of our appreciation of your labors, and as an evidence of the esteem in which we hold your excellent Journal. In this spirit offered, we hope you will accept it. Our annual fair will be held near this place on the 23d, 24th and 25th inst., and it would afford us pleasure to have an opportunity to welcome you to the hospitalities of our town and to a participation in the enjoyments and exercises of the occasion. Appreciating the sympathy and co-operation of yours and other publications of like character and aim, I would assure, you, as well in my own name as in that of the body I have the honor to represent, of an earnest wish, to see them freely circulating among our people.

With highest respect, I subscribe myself,

Your obt. svt.

JACOB FULLER, Pres. R. A. and M. Society.



### Baron Liebig's Warning.

The Baron Von Liebig is one of the leading chemists of the age, a very able and learned man, and a philosopher, but with all his wisdom and learning he fails to come to right results when he reasons from false premises. In his serious scientific works he assumes for truth the constantly repeated assertions of superficial observers that the great State of Virginia, upon whose untold resources of physical wealth scarcely an impression is yet made, is an effete, worn-out territory, serving the civilized world as a fit warning against the follies of improvident culture. Let us see what he says upon this matter in his "Familiar Letters on Chemistry."

"Is it possible, after so many decisive investigations into the original elements of animals and vegetables, the use of alkalies, of lime and the phosphates, any doubt can exist as to the principles upon which a rational agriculture depends. Can the art of agriculture be based upon anything but the restitution of a disturbed equilibrium? Can it be imagined that any country, however rich and fertile, with a flourishing commerce, which for centuries exports its produce in the shape of grain and cattle, will maintain its fertility, if the same commerce does not restore, in some form of manure, those elements which have been removed from the soil, and which cannot be replaced by the atmosphere, must not the same fate await every such country as has *actually befallen the once prolific soil of Virginia*, now in many parts no longer able to grow its staple productions—wheat and tobacco?"

And again in his *Modern Agriculture*:

"Let it be remembered that in Virginia there are vast tracts of land which at one time gave full crops of tobacco, Indian corn and wheat, now lying waste. The American farmer despoils his field without the least attempt at method in the process. When it ceases to yield him sufficiently abundant crops he simply quits it, and with his seeds and plants betakes himself to a fresh field, for there is plenty of good land to be had in America, and it would not be worth his while to work the same field to absolute exhaustion."

Baron Liebig is perfectly aware of the fact that there are cultivated lands all through Europe yielding abundant crops, which were cultivated for centuries before America was discovered. He should remember that in all that time there has been continual necessary waste of "those elements which cannot be replaced by the atmosphere." Take the mere waste of the sewage of the great cities, what an enormous drain (going on for accumulated centuries) has

it made of these elements. Even had the saving been practicable, the value of nearly all of them was unknown until within a very recent period. It is true, indeed, that without such knowledge there has been a restoration of these in some measure, in common with those the atmosphere can replace, whenever manuring has been resorted to. But it needs little reflection to one who must be familiar with practical agriculture to see how very, very small must have been the amount of restitution as compared with the consumption of earthy elements. Yet we suppose the most fertile lands of European countries are those which have been longest in cultivation, and which are bearing now the densest population; which are yielding up continually the most and wasting the most of those elements which Baron Liebig says must be restored. He has before his eyes this loss, and implores those who have been carrying on the wasteful processes for a thousand years, to beware lest the same fate await them that "has actually befallen the once prolific soil of Virginia."

This is a compliment, indeed, to the energy and industry of the people of Virginia, that in so short a period comparatively, and with a very sparse population, they have been able to do what the toiling millions of Europe have not been able to do, but are only in danger of, if they fail to be directed by the lights now set before them.

It is curious to see how even great minds not only make facts serve their purposes, but allow themselves to be imposed on by false representations, if they can be made to answer the same end. Our author says: "The American farmer despoils his field without the least attempt at method in the process. When it ceases to yield him sufficiently abundant crops he simply quits it, and with his seeds and plants betakes himself to a fresh field, for there is plenty of good land to be had in America, and it would not be worth his while to work the same field to absolute exhaustion." This is, indeed, a true relation of what has been done in the agriculture of all the old States. It is as strictly true of Massachusetts and other New England States as of Virginia and other Southern States. In all of them it has been found cheaper, or, with their existing lights, believed to be cheaper, to abandon old lands after many years working, and cultivate the most accessible or most attractive new lands. Thousands of homes in the State of Massachusetts have been, in course of time, actually abandoned and reverted to a "state of nature" for this very reason. All over the country, North and South, accessible new and fertile lands have

been vastly out of proportion to the available agricultural labor, and the laborer has not, therefore, confined himself to the old, but sought the new.

This outflow of labor from certain sections has been checked, in a measure, where manufacturing and commercial wealth has been accumulated, and given the cultivated lands near home better markets, and agricultural labor better rewards. The upper tier of slave States were drained of their laboring population by the attractions of cotton and sugar cultivation, and this drain was only in a measure restrained by the profits of tobacco cultivation, by the very low prices to which, at one time, cotton and sugar had fallen, and by the introduction of Peruvian guano and other portable fertilizers, which increased in so large a measure the profits of agriculture within their own borders.

Take the country through, and its agricultural labor and operations have been *nomadic*. There has been a constant movement—a shifting from place to place. The whole process of American agriculture has been, therefore, aptly termed a “skimming” operation. It has taken off the mere surface accumulations of the soil—apparently, indeed, its cream and richness.

But what surprises us is that so careful a thinker as Baron Liebig, recognizing the general facts of our agriculture, should have failed to see what a very different thing this is from the ruin which he thinks “has actually befallen the once prolific State of Virginia,” such a ruin as authorizes him to hold up her condition in this respect as a warning to the world.

The trouble with him is that he cannot get rid of that beam in his eye, his own “mineral theory,” and must interpret all facts by the light only which that obstacle to his vision admits. According to his theory, that only is an exhausted and ruined soil which wants those elements “that cannot be replaced by the atmosphere.” This “skimming,” as he views the matter, having caused present unproductiveness, must have taken off these elements; otherwise, as the atmosphere is ever present and ever operating, atmospheric elements would have been replaced, and the “disturbed equilibrium” restored. But the facts known to intelligent improvers do not warrant this view of the matter. The truth seems rather to be, that the deficiency of such worn lands is caused by the burning out, the consumption, of the vegetable mould which was merely superficial, and not by the exhaustion of its mineral elements. The proof is in the fact that the restoration of vegetable mould, by the mere opening of the soil to the action of the at-

mosphere, or even its own growth without the aid of the plough, restores its fertility without any adding of mineral matter. Clover, peas and other such crops, give to it only what the atmosphere furnishes, and fertility is revived. The exhaustion has been only of that which is inexhaustible, and may be cheaply replaced by ordinary intelligence under the now common lights of agricultural teaching.

### The Educational Journal.

*Messrs. Editors:* I have just seen an article in “The American Farmer” entitled “Our Educators,” and should be glad to say a word or two as to the connection of my name with the magazine which forms the subject of the criticism. I would state, first of all, that I am responsible only for the part, of the Journal in question, which is devoted to the higher forms of instruction. Being quite sure that the higher educational interests of the State could not be subserved by writings intended for the least advanced learners, I gladly accepted the invitation of “The Editor and Proprietor of the Maryland Educational Journal” to do all I could in such a cause, on the sole condition, that I might be allowed to contribute from month to month such thoughts (either my own or those of competent friends) as would in my judgment help to elevate the scholastic character of the educators of the State. Candor induces me to add that the hope of calling attention to the interests of the college, of whose academic board I am a member, was with me an influential motive. I say so much for the purpose of showing that I am responsible only for what I write, and therefore cannot be expected to exercise any general supervision over the Journal in question. Thanking you, Messrs. Editors, for your kind personal reference, and asking that I may be laid under additional obligation by the insertion of this communication, I take pleasure in subscribing myself, yours, very truly,

C. K. NELSON.

St. John's College, Oct. 5, 1867.

### “Our Educators.”

In the *American Farmer* for October there is a personal attack upon an humble individual for *presuming* to publish an Educational Journal. As said attack contains misrepresentations, the privilege of a brief reply is solicited. We will not retaliate by small criticisms upon the grammatical errors in this critic's article. One thing, however, “our educators” should have at least, they should have christian charity in their hearts, and not let their deliberate actions reflect the envy, jealousy and bitterness within.

The article in the "*Farmer*" says: "In the first editorial of first number, among other remarkable thoughts, the writer finds nothing that he can compare with 'the grand uniform system of State policy, such as regulates the free schools of Maryland,' for a 'uniform system of home instruction,' except, perhaps, it be the Bible; he assures the teacher that his duties are 'interlarded with thorns,' " &c.

The paragraph in the *Journal* here referred to reads thus:

"Individual teachers have their difficulties to encounter, which are greatly lessened, however, when they stand connected with a grand uniform system of State policy, such as now regulates the free schools of Maryland. Its wise regulations hold up their hands. It were well could some uniform system of home instruction be devised and legally enforced, as good as that which now regulates the school-room. And yet, perhaps, it already exists in the Book of books! Were parents more generally and deeply imbued with the spirit of the inspired word, and alive to a sense of their responsibilities, the labors of the school-room would be less interlarded with thorns."

From this it will be seen how unfair and garbled is this allusion, which is a fair specimen of all.

The writer next essays some poor attempts at wit, showing that he has yet to learn that education is something more than mere book knowledge whipped in.

When this learned critic vouchsafes to publish his educational "magazine," then may we expect to see the "educational interests in our State properly represented abroad." Haste that day!

Much more might be said, but forbearance is a virtue. It is enough that the Maryland Educational *Journal* has been decided by competent judges to be a success, and to compare favorably with other publications of a similar character in other States.

E. S. ZEVELY.

October 9th, 1867.

### Our English Speech.

In our number for October, we went somewhat out of the usual path to say a word of "Our Educators." We well understood, indeed, that it would be thought presumptuous in an Agricultural *Journal* to call in question the qualifications of our Masters of Grammar. It was modestly assumed, however, that even an *Old Farmer* might examine, in his own way, the credentials of those who would teach his sons, and as the "Educator" called in question was

a public *Journal*, conspicuously endorsed by seven gentlemen, our highest State Educational Officials, it was thought not inappropriate to hold the examination in these columns. Moreover, a great public interest like that of Education commands the attention, and its modes of instruction demand the scrutiny of every good citizen, even though he be a farmer, and of every *Journal* though it be 'only Agricultural.' There is nothing so needful to its healthful growth and progress as day-light—publicity.

In doing such a public service it is plain to see from the above, and it is well known to us from numerous other like indications, that "somebody is hurt." We are sorry for this; and especially so if it comes of a rude or careless manner of handling a delicate subject. If it comes only from the nature of the case, it is not our fault.

In reply to the letter of Mr. Zevely, we have to say, that for "an humble individual" as he is pleased to express it, he takes too much upon himself. He is in nothing so "presuming" as in claiming that to be "a personal attack" upon himself, which was aimed at "the Maryland Educational *Journal*," sent out with the impress, and claiming to be the mouth-piece, of the Chiefs of our System of Public Instruction. The *American Farmer* cannot recognise, does not know, has not thought of Mr. Zevely in the matter. He is, simply, nobody, nothing, nowhere—*Non est*. We mean to be emphatic but not uncivil; we only mean to have Mr. Z. understand, that except in so far as he is involved with others, he is not in the case, and, therefore, that we could not have said any thing that is personal to him.

Acting upon this theory, the only one justified by the circumstances, we have in simplicity and sincerity spoken only in the interests of Education. We claimed that a *Journal* which professed to speak the mind of our Public Instructors, should express itself in reputable English. We assumed that our Teachers of Grammar should themselves write grammatically. We required that the Scholarship of the State should, in its public utterances, have scholarly expression. The *Journal* was quoted to prove a failure in all these points. If it were indeed their pulpit, then was it plain, that those who preached to us, were, in such matters, themselves all mere "cast-aways."

We did not expect all this to be agreeable, but only wholesome in its effects. Nor indeed are we much surprised that we are charged with misrepresenting, garbling, &c., because that is very natural; and when Mr. Z. began his list of hard words with "envy, jealousy, and bitterness," he

might just as pertinently have spun it out with "inordinate and sinful affections," "hardness of heart" and—"contempt of his word."

Again, when we are told from another quarter, that our criticism is "captious and ungenerous," may not our chief teachers have leave to lecture us? When we are asked "Did you give the real meaning of the B. & O. Railroad article?" we say, no; we only gave the language of the writer. When it is said of the style of the Educational Journal that "it was not intended for Farmer Boys," we ask, why, then, is it said on page 86, July number, "Ah, boys, you are monstrous(!) aggravating sometimes"? And on the same page, "Not every boy who grows up to be twenty-one gets to be a man, &c."? Are Farmer Boys to be considered above or below the level of such style, that the talk to boys is not for them?

Then again it is said, "I was curious to ascertain what class of Educators specially concerned your Agricultural Journal," and "The Editor did not expect so extended a notice from an Agricultural Journal." We recognise here the traditional sneer and are warned against meddling with things too high for us. "Issachar is a strong ass," what should he do but couch between his burdens?

In conclusion, it is proper to say, that, in the stir we have caused, it is made apparent to us, that neither the Superintendent of Instruction, nor, perhaps, any of the gentlemen named, except Mr. Zevely himself, have had any general control or supervision of the Journal. Mr. Z. knew this, and hence imagined himself attacked. He should have understood that we could not assume, and that the public could not know it. The very success of his Journal was gibbeting the fame of our chief Educators. Let them thank us that they are rescued from a damaging height. Dr. Nelson, it will be seen, refuses to be held responsible beyond his own well defined limits. For Mr. Zevely, we are sure, that, in the future, he will be watchful of his P's and Q's. There will be good articles from Dr. Nelson, as that on the Study of English in the October number, and like that of Professor Baird in the August number, and many others, which have more than offset the faults that have been criticised. We will not issue "our Educational Magazine," but, in whatever we can, will help the Journal to a better success, as we have now shown it how better to deserve it. Let it not be taken amiss that an *Old Farmer* has exercised the privilege of age, even a little roughly, to correct the faults of a youthful contemporary. It is not in his heart to quarrel with one who

makes explicit declaration in his last issue, that "The English Language (is) the essential element of American Scholarship." This English Speech was the subject of our story. It was just for this that we have seemed to be over-earnest.

### Book Table.

**THE RICHMOND ECLECTIC.**—We have before us this excellent monthly for October, with its choice selections from the best foreign Magazines and Quarterlies. The topics of this number are: Summer Holidays, A New Life of Napoleon I., Personnel of the Present Parliament, Cash, Credit and Co-operation, After the Rain, Short Studies on Great Subjects, The Hill Farm, The Sultan and Viceroy in Egypt, Marriage-Brokers, What Time does for us, Sextons, The Belgians at Home, Sonnet, Science and Art, Books Late-ly Published, Editorial Note. Edited by Rev. Moses Hoge and Rev. William Brown, Richmond—\$4.00 a year in advance.

**BLACKWOOD** for September comes with its usual burden of valuable matter. The contents of the number: Novels, *La Physique Moderne*, The Literature of the Scottish Independence Question, Brownlows Part IX. Egoism, Cornelius O'Dowd, The Question Settled, *Qu'il Mourût*, A Royal Idyll.

**THE NORTH BRITISH REVIEW.**—The issue of this Quarterly for September is received. Its contents are of the highest order. The opening article, *Moral Theories and Christian Ethics*, is quite worth the cost of the number. The other contents are: English Vers de Société, Concilia Scotiae, Carsten Hauch and his latest Poem, M. Gustave Doré, The Great Pyramid, Early Years of the Prince Consort, The Achievements and the Moral of 1867.

Both of these from the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 140 Fulton street, New York.

**A DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE**, comprising its *Antiquities, Biography, Geography and Natural History*, with Illustrations and Maps engraved expressly for this work. Edited by Wm. Smith, classical Examiner of the University of London.

We have a copy of this very valuable Dictionary from **PARMELEE BROTHERS, General Agents for Subscription Books**, 722 Sanson street, Phila.

This is, no doubt, the best Dictionary of the Bible in existence, and as no family nor student of the Bible should dispense with such an aid, the demand for it, we hope, will be equal to its great merits. We heartily commend it to our readers.

**THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND ARTS.** This valuable publication, so long and well known among us as Silliman's Journal, maintains its well established reputation. It is conducted by Professors B. Silliman and James D. Dana, in connection with Professors Asa Gray, and Wolcott Gibbs of Cambridge, and Professors S. W. Johnson, Geo. J. Brush, and H. A. Newton of New Haven. Published the first of every second month. Price \$6.00 per annum.

**VALUABLE SCHOOL BOOKS.**—We are indebted to Mason Morfit, Esq., general agent for the publications of Richardson & Co., for a catalogue of The Southern University Series of School and College Text-Books. This very valuable series, prepared chiefly by the Professors of the University of Virginia, has the highest commendations from the most competent judges. They may be seen at No. 12 North Charles street.

**WESTERN FARMERS' ANNUAL AND RURAL COMPANION, FOR 1868.**—We have received a copy of this new publication, and on glancing over it, find it highly interesting and filled with matter of the most useful and substantial character. It is beautifully printed, finely illustrated, and neatly bound in heavy paper covers. Price 25 cents. Address, Publisher *North Western Farmer*, Indianapolis, Indiana.

**TOBACCO FROST.**—*Frost in Virginia.*—A correspondent, writing from Orange County, Va., says: "Our tobacco planters have sustained great injury to their crops by the heavy frost on night of 30th September. Many a bright face now looks sad. It is the first crop I have had bitten, and am at a loss how to manage it. It seems strange that the light rich soils are most injured, and heavy clay lands not bitten at all."

**HOG DISEASE.**—A friend on Kent Island writes as follows: We have a destructive disease among our hogs on the Island—nothing to compare with it was ever known before—leaving many without one on the farm. The loss cannot be calculated at present. The disease has covered half the Island, and still continues to increase and spread. It will take thousands of dollars to cover the loss.

**AMERICAN POULTRY SOCIETY.**—We take pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of this new association, which will no doubt be instrumental in giving a stimulus to a very important and interesting branch of home production.

**THE BORDER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—This association will hold a fair at Danville, beginning on the 5th of November. The spirit with which our Southern friends are moving in these matters should shame Marylanders into action.

**THE RICHMOND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY** has held a very successful exhibition, and was eloquently addressed by ex-Governor Wise.

For the "American Farmer."

### Origin of Potatoes.

In your September number you say: "The late Commissioner of Agriculture claimed, it is said, for his own State of Pennsylvania, the credit of giving to the world the potato, and received a semi-endorsement of his claim from the leader of the House of Representatives at Washington."

This is one of the many "good stories" circulated concerning Mr. Newton and other public officers, by some, "for the fun of the thing," and by others to prejudice the public and secure his removal. It illustrates well their manufacture, and out of what a very small modicum of truth they may be made. Commissioner Newton "claimed for his own State of Pennsylvania the credit of giving to the world the *best* potato," (what a difference in the "good story" that *one word* "best" makes!) namely, the Mercer or Neshannock. Where is his "ignorance on even agricultural subjects," manifested in this claim?

When this improbable statement was repeated on the floor of Congress to injure Mr. Newton, Mr. Stevens, in his gravely humorous sarcasm, challenged the accuser of Mr. Newton to refute the claim, and thus gave it a "semi-endorsement." He probably knew the extent of knowledge they possessed on this then much disputed point of the origin of the potato, and challenged its ventilation.

But Mr. Newton is gone—hunted to his very grave—is it not time that he be allowed to rest there in peace? A. B. GROSH.

The allusion to Mr. Newton's opinion in the *Farmer* was merely incidental. That opinion was publicly imputed to him and not publicly denied. If his friend, Mr. Stevens, had not been too "gravely humorous," his semi-endorsement would not have misled us.

The writer of the above is familiar with the pages of the *Farmer*, and must know very well that the "good stories" he speaks of, have had no place there; nor has the quotation his "ignorance on even agricultural subjects" any signification as applied to us.

If the worthy Commissioner is resting in peace



as we trust he is, we suggest to Mr. Grosh that he is not likely to be disturbed by the agitation of his opinion on a question of potatoes.—*Eds.*

For the "American Farmer."

### Landlord and Tenant, Labor, &c.

*Editors of American Farmer:* Gentlemen, I enclose two dollars, a year's subscription to July, 1868, for the Farmer, which is always welcome, and which I am glad to see is conducted with even more than its former ability and spirit.

Will you allow me to make one or two suggestions? In consequence of the change in the system of labor in Maryland, many large landholders must rent their land, and for this purpose divide extensive tracts into farms of moderate size. This will create a class of tenants much larger than has heretofore existed in the State. It is important to both landlords and tenants to understand all their rights and all their remedies. Would not one or two articles on the law of landlord and tenant as modified by statute in Maryland, giving plain practical directions, with forms, especially in regard to notice to quit and remedies for breach of covenant, be of general use? You must have among your subscribers gentlemen who are proprietors as well as lawyers, and therefore have a personal interest in the subject, who would gladly write such articles, and I am sure they would be gratefully received by many of your readers. The state of the law being thus known to the farming community, some improvements in it might be suggested by those who feel the consequences of its defects.

A commodity universally used by farmers, and upon the price and character of which their prosperity depends more than upon anything else, is labor, a subject now, especially in Maryland, of supreme interest. Yet how little is said about it in any agricultural journal. One can know the cost of grain, or cattle, or cotton, &c., in any part of the State, or of the United States, but the cost of labor beyond the limits of one's own neighborhood it is almost impossible to know. Would not a regular report of the rate of wages in the different counties, added to the list of prices of grain, &c., be a valuable addition to a paper intended for farmers, valuable alike to the employer and the employed? The rate would thus be equalized throughout the country, for laborers would go where wages were highest, and employers could send for men where wages were lowest. Articles, too, by practical men of experience, as to the best mode of managing labor—whether, for example, it is better to board

hands in the farmer's house, or to give them houses, with plots on the estate, and the good and evil of both plans, and how to obviate the evil, and if the latter plan be adopted, how to provide for the privilege of *summary dismissal*, would be, I should think, very useful to a large number of land owners in Maryland, particularly at this time.

I hope you will not consider these hints intrusive. I have long thought that a wide field was open to agricultural papers for discussing subjects of even greater importance to farmers than soil and manure, or crops and cattle. F.

### Labor System.

*Messrs. Editors:* The present system of labor is so uncertain and void of laws to regulate it, that something ought to be done by legislation to protect both parties—employers and servants. I communicate to you my views on purpose to call forth a general discussion on this subject, and if possible to interest some of our delegates in the matter so the subject may be brought before the legislative body. My idea is this. There ought to be provided books, containing all the laws in regard to employer and servant, besides a number of blank leaves, intended for employers to write on. These books ought to be for sale at cost price at every magistrate's office. Every male or female intending to hire themselves out, ought, by law, to be compelled, under heavy penalty, to have and keep such a book. It should be the duty of employers to enter in this book the date when the bearer was employed by him, the terms of service and wages agreed on. After this entry the employer has to present this book to the nearest magistrate, who has to certify, that the book has been presented to him. Each magistrate to keep a register of books presented. It also should be the employer's duty to enter the date of dismissal and give a true certificate as to the behavior of the servant, and if dismissed before the terms agreed on, the reason for the dismissal. Any incorrect statement or neglect of the above entries to be punished by law, and the offender subject to suit for damage, if his incorrect entry has caused loss to other parties. Also taking servants without books, to be heavily fined. The benefit of this system would be that every man would know, what kind of a servant he hired; there would arise no dispute about the wages agreed on; the servant would not leave his or her service out of time, as their book would be deposited by the employer and they be subject to punishment if found without their book. By the certificate of the magistrate, the servant has a guarantee,

that the employer can not withhold or deny that he has received his book.

If we farmers shall be enabled to carry on farming to any advantage, we must be protected in regard to labor. At present we have no control whatever over our hands. When they, at their month's end have received their pay, it rests entirely with them if they will remain or not. They even will leave in the middle of the month, losing their pay.

This matter has to be taken in hand, if we shall prosper. L. A. HANSEN.

Clifton, Fairfax Co., Va., October, 1867.

For the "American Farmer."

### Experiments in Manuring.

CLIFTON, FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.,

October 5th, 1867.

Messrs. Editors:

[Since I sent you my remarks on "surface manuring," I found amongst my papers notes of a trial I made in 1857 and '58 with "surface manuring." As they prove important facts, I send them to you for publication. On a given area of a meadow, which brought 4000 pounds of hay, I manured with 30 cubic yards of rotten manure, receiving 1600 pounds of hay more than the year before. On another field, intended for barley, I also manured a similar area with 30 cubic yards of manure from the same pile, and seeded an equal portion of the field without manure. The manured portion brought 40 bushels of barley, and the portion not manured 28 bushels. The result was:

On the meadow, 1600 pounds of hay more than the year before, calculating the hay at \$16 per ton, \$13 00  
On the barley land, 12 bushels of barley more than without manure, \$1.25 per bushel..... 15 00

This small difference did not signify much, as difference in the prices of the products might make the produce even another year. But the next year's harvest told a different tale. The meadow brought 110 pounds more hay than the original 4000 pounds, whereas the barley land, seeded with clover, cut a fraction over 6000 pounds of hay—the barley land, without manure, only cutting 4050 pounds. The result of this year's harvest was:

Meadow, 5100 pounds, at \$16 per ton ..... \$40 80  
Barley land, with clover, 6006 pounds, per ton \$16, 48 00  
Gain for barley land..... \$7 20

The location of the meadow had all the advantages for "surface manuring," and still the result was decidedly against it. It proves that manure is *always* most profitably applied to grain, and that it only pays to manure such meadows which cannot be renovated by the plough. But we have another remedy to in-

crease the yield of our meadows, although it requires some years' time. It is to surround them with a belt of trees; for instance, willows and alders. By this process we increase the temperature of the soil, and break the roughness of the spring blasts sweeping over the land, at the same time fixing the fertile gases present in the atmosphere—the belt particularly to be on the North and East sides. ] Yours respectfully,

L. A. HANSEN.

### A Seedling Apple.

*Editors American Farmer:* I send you a few specimens of an apple (*a seedling*) which is a native of this county. It is called the "Shell" apple, after the name of an old gentleman by that name, upon whose farm it originated some fifty years ago. The specimens sent are a little over the medium size—some get much larger. The tree is a very rapid grower, and comes into bearing quite young, but grows to a great size, and if sharply pruned, sends up a quantity of root suckers from which it may be abundantly propagated. The fruit commences to ripen and fall about the second week in August, and continues until about the middle of September here, though upon the mountains it is in good order until the middle of October. It is one of the best apples for all purposes but keeping; for cider it scarcely has an equal; for drying and cooking in every way it is equally good; and its yield of brandy in distillation is enormous. I am not aware that this apple is known out of this section, except in Ohio, about the neighborhood of Chillicothe, where it has been taken by persons who have removed thither from this neighborhood. It should be in every collection, and I write with a hope that nurserymen may obtain it for distribution.

J. G. MEEK, Moorefield, Hardy Co.,  
West Virginia.

The apples received in good condition, October 18th—of handsome, mottled yellow color, of medium size, and a good table fruit. We do not know it.—Eds.

On opening the State Fair of Iowa, President Melendy, in the course of his remarks, said: "We do not desire a great overshadowing federal institution, which shall attempt to direct or control agricultural matters. We hang our hopes for agricultural progress in this country upon the common schools, the State agricultural colleges, the agricultural newspapers, and agricultural associations established so thickly throughout the country."

Office of "The Border Agricultural Society,"

Danville, Va., August 28th, 1867.

To ..... Esq.

Sir—"The Border Agricultural Society" will hold a Fair in this place, commencing on Tuesday, 5th November next, at which will be exhibited the most approved Agricultural Implements of all kinds, as well as the latest improvements in other departments of the Mechanic Arts, the finest stock of various kinds, and the best productions of the farm, the Loom and the Dairy, together with the most admired specimens of the handiwork of the ladies.

The Executive Committee have instructed me to call your attention to this enterprise, and to invite you to forward articles for exhibition and for competition for the premiums which will be offered, the amount of which will be published in a few days.

They hope thus to afford to the exhibitors the best means of advertising "the work of their hands," and to our Farmers the most desirable opportunity of procuring the implements and the stock, which they so much need to restore their fallen fortunes.

Do us the favor, if you please, to extend this notice, and to use your influence in aid of our efforts to improve the agricultural and other industrial interests of our country.

I am, very resp'y, your ob't servant,

THOS. P. ATKINSON, Cor. Sec'y.

[The above was received too late for notice in October number.—ED. FARMER.]

### Amer. Pomological Society.

The eleventh biennial session of this association was held at St. Louis, beginning on the 11th inst., and extending through three days.

In response to widely published announcements, delegates gathered in great numbers, and the convention is pronounced as one of the most successful ever held by this important society.

Some idea of the magnitude of the display may be had from the fact that there were 212 entries of peaches, 680 entries of grapes, 802 entries of apples and 745 of pears. This magnificent collection was contributed by gentlemen from Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Iowa, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

The following was the order of proceedings as adopted by the convention:

WEDNESDAY, P. M.—Annual address of the president.

Election of officers for the ensuing year.

Address by Thomas Meehan, of Pennsylvania,

on the diseases of the pear, followed by discussion on the part of the members.

\*Address by M. L. Dunlap, of Illinois, on the best mode of packing, shipping and marketing of fruits.

THURSDAY, A. M.—Presentation of reports and resolutions.

Discussion by members on the subject of small fruits, in the following order: Raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, currants, strawberries.

THURSDAY, P. M.—Reading of a paper on grapes, by William Saunders of Washington city, D. C.

Discussion on the varieties, culture and diseases of grapes.

FRIDAY, A. M.—Revision of fruit lists.

Miscellaneous business.

The address of the president, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, was a masterly effort, and was received with enthusiastic applause. The topic was the history, success and aims of the American Pomological Society, and was treated as only Mr. Wilder could treat this subject.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

### Compost.

A correspondent of the *Germanstown Telegraph* gives the following sensible advice:—A majority of farmers do not attach importance enough to the subject of saving and making manure and compost. To them manure and labor are what capital and credit are to the merchant. They think they can afford to pay five or six dollars per cord for manure, and it does seem a high price; but one thing they can do, they can take better care of what they have, and prevent the waste of what is the most valuable part. Many hog pens are built on sloping ground, the manure sinking away to some drain and lost. Now with proper care the manure of every hog raised and fattened is worth twenty dollars to put in corn hills. It is better not to let hogs wallow in the manure as most of farmers do with the view that hogs will work fine the coarse trash generally thrown in the pen. Make a tight board floor to the pen to prevent the leakage of the urine and manure, then thrown in the absorbents, such as weeds, straw, shavings, sawdust, leaves, chip dirt, briars, and in fact almost fine hickory brush, clean the sty out once a week, and throw the manure into a square pile, exposed to all the rain that falls, and in a dry time keep the manure moist by the addition of water, or cover with damp earth to prevent the "blue blazes." By this arrangement with ten hogs and plenty of material, a farmer will make near two hundred dollars' worth of manure ready for the land in good condition, and have better hogs than if he allowed them to wallow at pleasure in the mass.

### Cochin Fowls.

Their strongest point is their unrivaled excellence as Winter layers. As supplying chickens for sale in the London and other first-class markets they hold a very inferior position in the scale of merit. They have, in fact, many drawbacks to their value; instead of the smaller bone of the Dorking, they possess coarse, spongy bones of a large size, and of a much greater weight. It is evident that all the food which has been required to form the extra quantity of bone, in a profitable point of view, has been uselessly employed.

The Dorking, Game, or Polish fowl is as superior to the Cochin as is the (improved) Short horn steer to the coarse, unimproved varieties of domestic cattle. \* \* \* They accumulate large quantities of fat internally, where it is useless; but on the breast they scarcely fatten at all.

From their terrestrial habits, the pectoral muscles are very slightly developed; consequently there is less meat on the breast than might be expected from the size. \* \* \* It is frequently that the Cochins make up in size of the leg what is wanted on the breast. This is true; but it is no recommendation to a table fowl to develop largely the inferior portions at the expense of the finer parts. In the improved breeds of cattle the best joints are developed, and the inferior lessened in size; there is small bone and very little offal. The same peculiarities should distinguish the table fowl: it should be as nearly as possible all breast, with short limbs and thin bones.

It should be recollected, that unless a fowl has naturally a full chest it is impossible to put flesh or muscle on it by fattening, for there is this distinction between the flesh of quadrupeds and that of birds, that in the former, the flesh can be increased in size by the intermixture of fat between the fibres, which gives rise to the marbled appearance seen in prime beef. This, however, cannot be done in the case of birds; their muscles being always destitute of fat, which is deposited under the skin, or in the interior of the body only. \* \* \* To sum it up, it may be stated that Cochins are chiefly valuable, from their hardihood, from the ease which they may be kept in a small space, and the manner in which they bear confinement, from their prolificacy, in Winter especially; from their docility and readiness with which they set in any place, and at any time of the year; also from the quickness of their growth and size; but as a first-class table and market fowl, it will be found that any attempt to breed them, will terminate in disappointment. —*Tegeimier's Poultry book.*

### Raising Turkeys.

Turkeys are but little more difficult to raise than any other kinds of poultry. The most simple methods are always the best.

While the eggs are being incubated they should not be permitted to get too dry. It is a good plan to moisten each egg every day for four before they are hatched, with a cloth dipped in luke warm water. When the chicks are hatched, care should be taken that they are kept in nests free from lice; hardly any chickens suffer from the attacks of these vermin so much as these. Have the nests sprinkled every few days with powdered sulphur, and have some of this in the dusting place of the mother. Young turkeys thrive best with mothers of common fowls. Have each brood by itself in a ploughed patch where the young birds can obtain insects, etc. without running into long wet grass, which is, notwithstanding our correspondent's observation, hurtful—that is, if the chickens get wet through, and they will, even if there is but little dew.

For food, the best is undoubtedly coarse Indian meal, moistened into dough, with, in cold weather, a little powdered black pepper scattered in it. The practice of stuffing a pepper corn down the throat of a chick, which many men still practice, is barbarous and unnecessary, to say the least. Have plenty of pure clean water always accessible. Have the coop in which the mother is confined large enough for her to move around in, without being obliged to walk over her young, and our word for it, if the above directions are followed, you can raise turkeys.

Of course, if you keep your different broods near enough together to permit the quarrelsome hens to peck the others' chicks, there is no help for it.

For size and delicacy of flesh the best variety is the Bronze turkey undoubtedly, but eggs from any well taken-care-of breed, in which the parents are good-sized but not too old birds, will bring out good chickens.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

### Preparation of Food for Fattening Fowls.

Barley meal, or mixed in equal quantity with Indian meal, made into a stiff paste with milk and water, and seasoned with bay salt.

This paste is then either made liquid, for liquid feeding, or into pills, which should be dipped into milk and water before they are given, so as to facilitate the swallowing.

Experiments have proved that the seasoning poultry food with bay salt produces the following advantages:

1. To render the fattening of shorter duration.
2. To produce, with the same quantity of food, more flesh and fat.
3. To give the flesh greater firmness and flavor, and to the fat more compactness and a finer grain.

Molasses or sugar mixed with the meal has also good fattening qualities. The duration of fattening must much depend on the condition, age, and health of the fowl, and in this, the same as in administering the food, actual experience is the best teacher, as no rules can well be laid down.—*Geyelin's Poultry Breeding.*

#### Killing and Dressing Poultry.

Open the beak of the fowl, then with a pointed and narrow knife, make an incision at the back of the roof, which will divide the vertebrae and cause immediate death; after which hang the fowl up by the legs till the bleeding ceases; then rinse the beak out with vinegar and water. Fowls killed in this manner keep longer and do not present the unsightly external marks as those killed by the ordinary system of wringing the neck. When the entrails are drawn immediately after death, and the fowl stuffed, as they do in France, with paper shavings or coconut fibres, to preserve their shape, they will keep much longer fresh. Some breeders cram their poultry before killing, to make them appear heavy; this is a most injudicious plan, as the undigested food soon enters into fermentation, and putrefaction takes place, as is evidenced by the quantity of greenish, putrid-looking fowls that are seen in the markets.—*Geyelin's Poultry Breeding.*

WHAT MAY BE LEARNED FROM THE CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SOILS.—Dr. Voelcker, in his article on the causes of unproductiveness of soils, gives us the following facts. Chemical analyses will show decidedly:

1. Whether the soil is barren because of the presence of injurious substances;
2. or, because of an excess of nutritive substances;
3. or, because of a preponderance of lime, sand, clay, etc., etc.;
4. or, because of the absence of lime, phosphoric acid, alkalies or of other crop constituents;
5. or, whether clays are fertile or barren;
6. or, whether or not clays should be burnt, for manure;
7. or, whether lime may be useful;
8. or, whether it would be better to use lime, marl, clay, etc., etc.;
9. or, what special manure could be used without permanent injury to the soil;
10. or, what kind of artificial manures are best suited to the soil;
11. or, whether deep ploughing would be good;
12. or whether the food of plants existed in the soil in an available or inert condition.

#### Wm. Griffith's Grape Propagation.

There has been some talk in pomological circles, about a patent process for propagating grape vines, of which Mr. Wm. Griffith, of North East, Penn., claims to be the inventor. The matter was up before the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, some months ago, and was referred to a committee for examination and report; but that committee hangs fire, and no report is yet promulgated.

Mr. Griffith also sent a paper on the same subject to the Paris Exposition, and has received the following complimentary reply from L. F. Mellen, Esq., of Cleveland, who is clerk of the American Commission of the Universal Exposition.

PARIS, Aug. 12, 1867.—*Wm. Griffith, Esq.*—Dear Sir: At the suggestion of Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, one of our commissioners, I write to inform you, that the United States Commission to the Paris Exposition of 1867, are in receipt of a report from you, on a new method of propagating the grape, which was referred to committee No. 9, "on Horticulture, Pomology, and the culture and the products of the vine." That committee, consisting of Messrs. Wilder, of Mass., Flagg, of Ohio, and Barry, of New York, have made their report to our commission, and included with it the entire article furnished by yourself, and which report will be forwarded with others to the State Department at Washington." *Ohio Farmer.*

We have heard something before, of this new method of propagation, by which, as we are informed, it is an easy matter to raise plants from single eyes in the open ground.—*Ed. AM. FAR.*

GRAPES ON ELMS.—At the winter meeting of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, the Hon. John B. Turner, a successful grape grower, during a discussion on the grape, advocated the growing of grapes on elms. He said:

When, years ago, I taught Latin to boys, we used to read of the ancients letting their grape vines clamber on elms, but I thought little of the statement, as a practical suggestion. But I find that I cannot keep my vines out of the elms. If I plant near an elm the vine goes up into it. I have one vine that, despite my remonstrances, insists on going into the top of one of my elms. From it I sold during the past year \$100 worth of grapes. I am therefore tolerably well satisfied with its wilfulness; for these grapes did not cost me a cent for culture or care. I am now planting live stakes in my orchard; and elm stakes they are. Such stakes will save the annual cost of training and pruning, and, judging from my experience, they will insure fruitfulness.



### A Tour of Observation on Agriculture.

William Saunders, Esq., of the Agricultural Department, and superintendent of the propagating garden, has recently returned from an extensive tour in the grape-growing and wine-producing regions of the West. Commencing at Buffalo, he visited in turn Northeast Erie, Cleaveland, and Sandusky, also several islands in Lake Erie; thence to Cincinnati, and across to "Egypt" in Southern Illinois, up the Mississippi to St. Louis, and westward as far as Hermann, Missouri. The vineyards on the "lake-shore" and islands of Lake Erie, comprise from eight to ten thousand acres; the variety of grape principally cultivated is the Catawba, first introduced by Major Adlum, near Georgetown, in this District, upwards of forty years ago, and until quite lately it has been more extensively planted than any other variety. For the past few years, the crop has been subject to deterioration from a disease termed "rot," which affects the berry, causing it to decay and drop from the vine. This malady has assumed serious proportions this season, destroying fully one half the crop and greatly impairing the value of the remainder. For some years past the grape has been very extensively planted in this lake district under the supposition that the influence of a large body of water is peculiarly advantageous to the healthiness of the plant, owing to absence of dews and immunity from early frosts, thus lengthening the growing season to an equality with more Southern latitudes; but the "rotting" of the fruit is assuming proportions well calculated to alarm cultivators, many of whom have largely invested in the planting of the Catawba grape, and it is feared that this variety will have to be abandoned and others of more robust constitution, even if not of so valuable a quality, take its place.

Mr. Saunders spent several days in Cincinnati and vicinity, among the wine cellars and vineyards. Here American vines, as a commercial product, had their origin, and the wine interest is still on the increase, large accessions being yearly made to the acreage of the vineyards. Many of the older plantations have failed and are abandoned. These are located on very poor bluffs and elevated sites, where they have not received proper nutriment and culture. The more recently planted, on more generous soil, are in the finest possible health and condition, and suffer nothing in comparison with those on the lake shore. A comparatively new variety of grape, named Ivis seedling, is much in demand, and produces a wine pronounced in Europe as equal to the best claret wines there. Fine wines

are also made from the Diana and Delaware varieties. The sparkling wines are chiefly made from the Catawba. Of these the "Golden Wedding" brand is of great excellence and highly prized by connoisseurs.

Leaving Cincinnati, Mr. S. proceeded to southern Illinois, a remarkable fruit region just being developed. It is being rapidly settled by an intelligent class of fruit growers, who are making the desert blossom like the rose. Peaches, apples, pears, strawberries, and indeed all varieties of fruits here find a generous soil and genial climate. The fruit region of Illinois runs through five degrees of latitude. Over this the season advances at the rate of about twelve miles a day. At the south end of the state the strawberry ripens about the 1st of May. At that time the plants are not in blossom at Chicago; and not only are the markets of that city supplied at that early date, but the fruit is sent still further north where the ground yet lies locked in frost. Thus the strawberry season is extended for two months in these northern cities. The peach begins to ripen at the south part of the State about the 1st of July, and marching northward with the season the supply continues until the frosts of October close the orchards on the borders of Lake Michigan.

The Illinois Central railroad has done much to foster internal improvements in the State. The facilities afforded in getting fruits to market encourage orchardists; peach, apple, and pear plantations are extending, and the value of land increasing at a rapid rate.

The vineyards about Hermann, Missouri, are amongst the most successful in the country. The climate is conducive to the ripening of some of the best wine grapes, which cannot be successfully grown in the North. The Norton's Virginia seedling here furnishes a wine pronounced in Paris, during the past summer, as equal to the best red wines of Burgundy. As a medicinal wine it has no superior. This grape belongs to a southern class of our native varieties, and will not ripen to perfection in the more northern States. Heretofore a proper recognition has not been given to the latitudinal range of the various species of grapes, neither has a proper discrimination been exercised in selecting those most valuable for wine, as distinguished from those species of greatest value as table fruits. The Department of Agriculture has for some time past been collecting information on this subject, and Mr. Stokes, Acting Commissioner, is actively engaged in perfecting measures calculated to render more effective and direct aid to the pro-

ductive interests of the country than the department has yet been able to accomplish.

While at St. Louis Mr. Saunders attended the meetings of the American Pomological Society, then in session. This association has been in active operation for nearly twenty years. Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, of Massachusetts, is president, who has lately returned from Europe, where he spent the summer among the vineyards and orchards of the principal fruit-producing districts. The meeting at St. Louis was the most interesting and successful of any session yet held. The display of fruit is represented as being the finest ever seen in America. Over 2,500 dishes of the finest varieties were on exhibition. By request of the executive committee, Mr. Saunders addressed the society, in the Polytechnic Institute, on the culture of the grape, its diseases, and others matters pertaining to the wine-producing interests in this country.

### Muck.

The *Mass. Ploughman*, speaking of the value of muck as a fertilizer, says.

[Practical experience in agriculture as well as horticulture has proved that we can never do without carbonaceous manure, either of vegetable or animal origin, and experiment shows that carbon plays the chief part in earthy manures: that without mould there is no plant growing, as far as artificial mixtures of the soil are based on earthy substances, and that mineral manure, without sufficient mould or humous in the soil, is out of the question.

\* \* \* \* \*

The easier peat substances decompose, the better they act on vegetation, and so those light and spongy kinds, with which every farmer is familiar, though not so valuable for burning as fuel, are first-rate for manures. They make the soil more absorbent of the moisture of the air, and gradually decompose and rot down, adding to the mould or humus in the soil. This class of peat, the light and spongy kind, gives quicker results than any other varieties. All turf or peat is more or less nitrogenous or ammoniacal, and the stronger it smells in burning the richer it is in nitrogen, and the more fit it is to be used as manure for corn and grass. Owing to the quantity of nitrogen that peat contains, animal manure becomes less necessary, and hence we know of many instances where a heavy top dressing of the land with peat or muck has produced a marked and permanent effect when no manure was used.

As to the course of nitrogen in peat, Prof.

Schulzenstein, of Berlin, says the general opinion is that carburetted hydrogen gas is formed, of which the hydrogen unites itself with the nitrogen of the air so as to form ammonia. This, however, he says, is contradicted by the nitrogen not being present in the turf itself in the form of ammonia, which is only formed by the dry distillation of the turf, just in the same way as it originates through the dry distillation of animal substances. This shows that the nitrogen in the turf must be in the same condition as it is in animal substances, as for instance in horn, bones, albumen and meat. In fact, it can be proved that the nitrogen of the turf really originates from animal bodies, which live or have lived therein, and of which traces are to be found in the turf. The classes of infusoria, polyps, worms, mollusca, crustacea and insects are best represented, which through their bulky development produce the nitrogen in turf or peat meadows and in the peat itself.

Turf manure does not act so quickly as stable manure, because it rots more slowly, and thereby becomes more permanent in its effect. Liebig says, that turf can only be considered as manure for plants if phosphate of lime be mixed with it. But as turf contains in itself a considerable quantity of this substance, his opinion is not upheld in practice, and experiments in adding bone dust to the turf have not given any better results than by using turf alone.

Manuring with muck alone, or with other humus substances, shows that the food of plants forms a simple substance, which is represented in the gasses humus—carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen—and that the plant does not need to procure the carbon and nitrogen from different sources, and to compose only the food out of the elementary substances.

Now is the time to get out muck from its bed where it has lain for ages. Throw it in heaps to weather, and by another year you may use it as a top dressing, or in the compost heap.]

PRESERVING POTATOES.—A correspondent of the *Scientific American* says that he has tried the following method of keeping potatoes for years with complete success, though in some instances the tubers were diseased when taken out of the ground: "Dust over the floor of bin with lime, and put in about six or seven inches deep of potatoes, and dust with lime as before. Put in six or seven inches of potatoes, and lime again; repeat the operation until all are stored away. One bushel of lime will do for forty bushels of potatoes, though more will not hurt them, the lime rather improving the flavor than otherwise.

## Sunday Reading.

Most true it is that whoever would have this jewel of contentment, which turns all into gold, yea, want into wealth, must come with minds divested of all ambitious and covetous thoughts, else are they never likely to obtain it. It is not a senseless stupidity respecting what becomes of our outward estates. God would have us to take notice of all accidents which, from Him, happen to us in all worldly matters. Had the martyrs had the dead palsy before they went to the stake to be burnt, their sufferings had not been so glorious. It is a humble and willing submitting ourselves to God's pleasure in all conditions. Thus contentment makes men carry themselves gracefully in wealth, want, health, sickness, freedom, fetters, yea, what condition soever God allots them. It is no breach of contentment for men to complain that their sufferings are unjust as offered by men, provided they allow them for just as proceeding from God, who useth wicked men's injustice to correct His children. But let us take heed that we bite not so high at the handle of the rod as to fasten on His hand that holds it; our discontentment mounting so high as to quarrel with God himself. It is no breach of contentment for men, by lawful means, to seek the removal of their misery and bettering of their estate: thus men ought by industry to endeavor the getting of more wealth, ever submitting themselves to God's will. A lazy hand is no argument of a contented heart; indeed, he that is idle, and followeth after vain persons shall have enough; but how? "shall have poverty enough," (Prov. 28, 19.) God's spirit is the best school-master to teach contentment: the school of sanctified afflictions is the best place to learn contentment in; I say, "sanctified," for naturally, like resty horses, we go the worse for the beating, if God bless not afflictions unto us. Contentment consists not in adding more fuel, but in taking away some fire.

A life of religion is a life of faith, and faith is that strange faculty by which man feels the presence of the invisible, exactly as some animals have the power of seeing in the dark. That is the difference between the christian and the world. Most men know nothing beyond what they see; their lovely world is all in all to them—its outer beauty, not its hidden loveliness. Prosperity, adversity, sadness, it is all the same, they struggle through it all alone, and when old age comes, and the companions of early life are gone,

they feel that they are solitary. In all this deep, strange world, they never meet, or but for a moment, the spirit of it all who stands at their very side. And it is exactly the opposite of this that makes a christian. Move where he will, there is a thought and a presence which he cannot put aside, he is "haunted forever by the eternal mind." God looks out upon him from the clear sky, and through the thick darkness—is present in the rain-drop that trickles through the branches, and in the tempest that crashes down the forest. A living Redeemer stands beside him, goes with him, talks with him as a man with his friend. The emphatic description of a life of spirituality is—"Enoch walked with God."

In the pursuit of wealth, knowledge, reputation, circumstances have power to mar the wisest schemes. The hoard of years may be lost in a single night; the wisdom stored up by a whole life may perish when some fever impairs memory. But in the kingdom of Christ, where inward character is the prize, no chance can rob earnestness of its exactly proportioned due of success. "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." There is no blight, nor mildew, nor scorching sun, nor rain-deluge, which can turn that harvest into a failure. "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth." Sow for time, and probably you will succeed in time; sow the seed of life—humbleness, pure-heartedness, love, and in the long eternity which lies before the soul, every minutest grain will come up again with an increase of thirty, sixty, or a hundred-fold.

No marvel if the worldling escape earthly afflictions. God corrects him not, because He loves him not. He is base-born and begot; God will not do him the favor to whip him. The world afflicts him not, because he loves him; for each man is indulgent to his own. God useth not the rod where He means to use the sword. The pillory or scourge is for those malefactors which shall escape execution.

It is a most miserable state for a man to have everything according to his desire, and quietly to enjoy the pleasures of life. There needs no more to expose him to eternal misery.

A good man is the best friend, and therefore soonest to be chosen, longer to be retained, and indeed never to be parted with, unless he cease to be that for which he was chosen.

## PEACH STONES

FOR SALE.

500 to 600 bushels Prime Peach Stones for sale cheap

Address BUSINESS AGENCY

*American Farmer Office,*  
no. 4 South street, Baltimore.

### Baltimore Markets, Oct. 26, 1867.

COFFEE.—Rio, 16½a17½ cts. gold, according to quality;  
Laguayra —, and Java —.

COTTON.—We quote prices as follows, viz:

Grades.	Upland.	Gulf.
Ordinary.....	15	—
Good do.....	16	—
Low Middling.....	17½	—
Middling.....	18½	20½

FERTILIZERS.—Peruvian Guano, \$82; California \$70.  
Rodunda Island \$30; Patapasco Co's \$60; Reese & Co's  
Soluble Pacific Guano, \$65; Flour of Bone, \$60; G.  
Ober's (Kettlewells) AA Manipulated, \$70; A do. \$60;  
Ammoniated Alkaline Phosphate, \$55; Alkaline Phos. \$45;  
Baltimore City Company's Fertilizer, \$40; do., Flour of  
Bone, \$60; do., Ground Bone, \$45; do., Poudrette, \$20;  
Baugh's Raw-bone Phosphate, \$56; Maryland Powder of  
Bone, \$50; Rhodes' Super Phosphate, \$55; Lister's Bone  
Super-Phosphate \$55; Andrew Coe's Super-Phosphate of  
Lime, \$60;—all per ton of 2,000 lbs.; Pure Ground Plaster,  
\$13.50a\$14.00 per ton, or \$2 50 per bbl. Shell Lime,  
slaked, 6c., unslaked, 10c per bushel, at kilns.

FLOUR.—Howard Street Super and Cut Extra, \$10.00a  
10.50; Family, \$13.50a14.00; City Mills Super, \$10.00a  
10.50; Baltimore Family, \$15.00a16.00.

Rye Flour and Corn Meal.—Rye Flour, \$8.50a9.00;  
Corn Meal, \$7.00.

GRAIN.—Wheat.—Good to prime Red, \$2 60a2.75;  
White, \$2.70a2.90.

Rye.—\$1.50a1.70 per bushel.

Oats.—Heavy to light—ranging as to character from 70  
a73c. per bushel.

Corn.—White, \$1 40a1.42; Yellow, \$1 35a1.40 per  
bushel.

HAY AND STRAW.—Timothy \$23a25, and Rye Straw \$20  
a\$21 per ton.

PROVISIONS.—Bacon.—Shoulders, 14½a14¾ cts.; Sides  
17½a18; Hams, plain bagged, 19 cts.; sugar cured, 23a  
24 cts. per lb.

SALT.—Liverpool Ground Alum, \$2.25a2.30; Fine, \$3.10  
a\$3.20; Turk's Island, 56a60 cts. per bushel.

SEEDS.—Timothy \$2.75a2.87; Clover \$8.25a; Flax 2.75  
a3.00.

TOBACCO.—We give the range of prices as follows:

#### Maryland.

Frosted to common.....	\$—a —
Sound common.....	4.00a 4.50
Middling.....	7.50a 9.00
Good to fine brown.....	10.00a15.00
Fancy.....	17.00a25.00
Upper country.....	3.00a30.00
Ground leaves, new.....	3.00a5.00

WOOL.—We quote: Unwashed, 25a27 cts. per lb.; Tub-  
washed, 35a37 cts.; Fleece 37a40 cts.; Pulled 25a28 cts.  
per lb.

CATTLE MARKET.—Common, \$4.50a5.25; Good, \$6.25a  
6.75; Prime Beeves, \$7.00a7.25 per 100 lbs.

Sheep—4a5 cts. lbs. gross. Lambs \$1.00a1.50 per head.  
Stock Sheep \$1.00a1.50 per head.

Hogs—\$9.00a10.00 per 100 lbs., net.

## Wholesale Produce Market.

Prepared for the American Farmer by HEWES & WARNER, Produce  
and Commission Merchants, 18 Commerce street.

BALTIMORE, October 24, 1867.

BUTTER.—Western so' id packed 25 to 35 and Rolled 30  
to 35; Glades, 30 to 40; Goshen, — to —.

BEESWAX.—38a40 cts.

CHEESE.—Eastern, 16a18; Western, 14a15.

DRIED FRUIT.—Apples, 5 to 9; Peaches, 10.

EGGS.—25a28 cents per dozen.

FEATHERS.—Live Geese, 60 to 80 cents.

LARD.—Western, 14a14½; City rendered, 14½a17 cts.

TALLOW.—10a12 cents.

POTATOES.—\$2.25a3.25 per barrel.

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